

A
VOYAGE
FROM THE
UNITED STATES
TO
SOUTH AMERICA,

PERFORMED DURING THE
Years 1821, 1822, & 1823.

EMBRACING
A DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY OF RIO JANEIRO, IN BRAZIL; OF EVERY PORT OF
IMPORTANCE IN CHILI; OF SEVERAL IN LOWER PERU; AND OF AN
EIGHTEEN MONTHS CRUISE IN A NANTUCKET WHALESHIP.

The whole Interspersed with a variety of Original Anecdotes.

SECOND EDITION.

NEWBURYPORT:

PRINTED AT THE HERALD PRESS.

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DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO WIT.

District Clerk's Office.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the tenth day of September, A. D. 1823, in the forty eighth Year of the Independence of the United States of America, *Washington Chase*, of the said District, has deposited in this Office the Title of a Book, the Right whereof he claims as Proprietor, in the words following, to wit:—

A Voyage from the United States to South America, performed during the years 1821, 1822, & 1823: embracing a Description of the city of Rio Janeiro, in Brazil; of every Port of Importance in Chili; of several in Lower Peru; and of an Eighteen Months Cruise in a Nantucket Whaleship:—The whole interspersed with a variety of Original Anecdotes.

In conformity to the Act of the Congress of the United States, entitled, "An Act for the Encouragement of Learning, by securing the Copies of Maps, Charts and Books to the Authors and Proprietors of such Copies, during the Times therein mentioned;" and also to an Act entitled, "An Act supplementary to an Act, entitled, An Act for the Encouragement of Learning, by securing the Copies of Maps, Charts and Books, to the Authors and Proprietors of such Copies during the times therein mentioned; and extending the Benefits thereof to the Arts of Designing, Engraving and Etching Historical, and other Prints."

JNO. W. DAVIS, *Clerk of the District of Massachusetts.*

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PREFACE.

The following pages were originally written for the inspection of the Author's father; he never would have presumed to obtrude them upon the attention of the Public, had not a portion of them received the favourable notice of literary gentlemen of this town, and of Nantucket. The Author is well aware that his production is not exempt from errors—but he can assert, that if there be such, either in inference or fact, they are unintentional.

It will be obvious to the Reader, that in the *small* compass of eighty pages, it was impossible to give a full and complete description of the places the Author visited; he has been compelled to exclude upwards of 100 pages which he had written, and which probably might have been found interesting. To compress as much matter as possible within the present work, the Reader will perceive that the pages are much longer and wider than is ordinary in octavo.

For using the singular pronoun *I*, when speaking of himself, the Author hopes that he shall not be deemed guilty of egotism; and as it respects the language, and the grammatical construction of the sentences, it is presumed it will be sufficient to observe, that the benefit of a liberal education was never received by

THE AUTHOR.

NEWBURYPORT, Oct. 22, 1823.

ADVERTISEMENT
TO THE
SECOND EDITION.

The rapid sale of the First Edition of this Work, consisting of 500 copies, in Newburyport and its vicinity, has induced the Author to put it again to Press. It has undergone some alterations and additions.

A

VOYAGE

TO

SOUTH AMERICA.

IT was in the month of May, 1821, that I took my departure from Philadelphia, in a brig bound to Rio Janeiro, the capital of the Brazils. There went passengers in the same vessel, my brother, a mill-wright by profession, two block-tin workers, a Danish farmer, and a German currier. We had agreed to pay \$40 each for our passage, and to find ourselves. We had all boarded at the same house in Sassafras Street, Philadelphia, and we there agreed to purchase our provisions conjointly, and to mess together. The stock we laid in, consisted of 1 barrel of beef, 1 do. pork, 2½ do. flour, biscuit, tea, coffee, sugar, some hams, a few dried peaches and apples, and some Jamaica spirit.

The first occurrence worth mentioning which happened to our little party (only 7 days out), was on the Dane's discovering that the barrel which contained our beef, was nearly destitute of brine; this he *remedied*, by adding to what remained, some three or four buckets of *salt water*! The consequence of which was, that two days afterwards, we had to throw our beef from whence he had gotten his *pickle*. A fortnight subsequent to this affair, we held a consultation upon the state of our pork; the majority present stating, that boiled or unboiled, a mephitic odour not unlike that of carrion, escaped from it—in plain English, that it was no longer fit to be eaten. The result of our conference was, that it should follow the fate of the beef; and it was committed to the ocean. Of meat kind, we had none other now left than a few hams; and as we had not seen these since we left the Delaware (they being stowed away

below), we thought it advisable to have them on deck for inspection. The hams were produced, and with their production a discovery was made most mortifying to us, viz: that some of them *had shrunk away to the bare bone!* To account for this circumstance, it will be necessary to state, that long ere this, we had observed, that in maxillary exploits, the Dane exceeded any one of us, and it was now shrewdly suspected, that not content with the enormous proportion he was accustomed to devour at our usual meals, he had exercised his talent upon these hams below, and in private; although he firmly denied the fact, subsequent events rendered it probable that we were right in our conclusions. This gentleman's voracity carried him to such lengths at last, that whenever we had a pie or pudding of dried peaches or apples, he generally so managed matters as to monopolize one half; to obviate which objection, it was wisely suggested by the German, that, for the future, whenever such rarities should await us, my brother, with his compasses, should strike them into six equal portions; which was accordingly done to the no small dissatisfaction of our Danish companion. The remainder of our passage had nothing remarkable in it, excepting, that for the last three weeks, we lived without meat. We encountered but few storms, but were becalmed considerably on the Line.

Early in the morning of the 56th day from our leaving the Capes of Delaware, we descried Cape Frio, in Brazil, but a short distance from our intended port. Having a fair wind, we now squared away for Rio Janeiro, with the land on our starboard hand, but a few miles distant. The shore was iron-bound, and the country appeared to be mountainous and well wooded. We entered the harbour of Rio Janeiro (said to be the most commodious in the world) at 7 o'clock in the evening. It was dark, and we were hailed in English from fort *Santos Cruz*, at the entrance of the harbour, and ordered to come to anchor just within it. In the morning, after the health and custom-house boats had visited us, we made sail, and brought-up amongst the foreign merchantmen, at the back of *Isla dos Cobras* (the Isle of Snakes). Nothing could exceed the grandeur of the scenery whilst sailing up this bay. The city of Rio Janeiro, with its monasteries, convents, churches, forts and handsome suburbs; lofty mountains, beneath whose summits the clouds were

curling; stupendous valleys, lined with planter's houses, with gardens and orangeries; the delightful villages scattered around the margin of the bay; and that bay itself, covered with canoes and boats, whilst the wharves were thronged with merchant vessels, presented an appearance but rarely to be met with.

The Portuguese language is spoken in Brazil, and the religion is Roman Catholic.

Rio Janeiro, it is said, is nearly as extensive as New-York. Its streets, though paved, are narrow and filthy. The buildings are differently constructed from those of the United States; they are principally of stone, 3-stories in height, the walls of which vary from 2 to 4 ft. in thickness: their roofs are tiled. The ground floor of the houses of the wealthy, within the city, are either occupied as stores, or *pulquerias* (places where liquor is vended), or are appropriated to stables for horses, mules, and vehicles.

The distrustful and jealous character of the Brazilians, is exemplified as much in their buildings, as in their behaviour. The royal palace here, which runs the whole length of a street, though very spacious, is by no means an elegant mansion; it is but 2 stories in height, is tiled, and has a large square in front of it. The king's chapel, a short distance from the palace, is rich in gold and silver ornaments and pictures, but the altar piece is but an indifferent performance. It is a most imposing sight to witness mass in this chapel in the evening. The convent of St. Antonio, said to contain several hundred friars, and that of St. Benedict, immediately opposite the anchorage of the foreign merchantmen, are vast and handsome buildings. There are many other convents and nunneries, all of them extensive, but too numerous to notice particularly. I must not however pass over the Convent of *Misirecordos* (mercy). It is a huge pile of buildings, and is appropriated to the reception of female orphan and illegitimate children. This place is open three days in the year to the inspection of the citizens: and from among those girls who have arrived at the age of maturity, the young Brazilian has an opportunity of taking a wife; the gentleman's religion and character being first inquired into. I understood that, at their marriage, the young ladies were generally presented with from 1 to 200 *mil reys* (a mil rey is nearly a dollar and a quarter) out of the funds of

the convent. It is not uncommon for Portuguese and Brazilian gentlemen, about making a journey, to cause their wives and daughters to be deposited in this convent for safe keeping till their return.

The work of greatest public utility in Rio Janeiro, is an aqueduct, by which the city is supplied with water. This prodigious undertaking was begun and completed by one of the Vice-Reys in the 16th century, I believe. The water that supplies it, is brought from a mountain, at least 6 miles from the town, called the Parrot's Head. The walk to the spring that supplies the aqueduct, is much frequented by the citizens of Rio Janeiro; there was one thing here however which did not exactly suit my ideas of cleanliness—it was in seeing negroes, Indians and whites bathe in the same water, near its source, which was afterwards to supply the town.

The late king had several palaces in and about Rio, but the one in which he principally resided, and the largest of them all, is called St. Christophers, and is three miles out of town. Two or three regiments of cavalry were quartered near the palace, and the royal family seldom rode out without a strong escort. It was disgusting to see what subservient homage the Brazilians were constrained to pay royalty whilst passing; the common people were wont to fall prostrate on the ground, and noblemen to alight from horseback and from their carriages, to bend the knee; even foreigners were compelled to stand uncovered till their august majesties had gone by.

Don Miguel* (Michael), the king of Portugal's second son, and brother to the reigning emperor of Brazil, was one morning playing in the square fronting the palace of St. Christopher's, with the son of a Scotch Architect employed here, when, by some means, a quarrel ensued, and at length a fight. The king, was, at this time, on the balcony; and although his attendants entreated to be allowed to go and separate the youths, it is said he sternly forbade them, exclaiming, "Now we shall see whether the son of a king, or of a mason, will come off victorious." The young Caledonian worsted his royal antagonist, and the king retired with a smile.

* This is the same puissant Michael who, with his snuff-taking mother, has lately been so instrumental in overturning the Constitutional Government of Portugal, and establishing a despotism.

The Royal Barracks, on the road to St. Christophers, are an immense block of buildings, capable of containing some thousand soldiers. The making of shoes, and other avocations, is carried on here, by the inmates, at their leisure hours. Parallel with these barracks, and about a mile from them, the Foreign residents have been allowed to erect a Protestant place of worship, and a minister of the Church of England officiates. I was, more than once, at the burial of a foreigner at this place, and it was pleasing to see with what order and decorum it was conducted, amidst a people who detest protestantism. There was also a small meeting house within the city.

Rio Janeiro, can boast, among its ornaments, of an elegant, though small, Botanic Garden. Its wide gravelled walks are finely shaded by rows of fruit, and other trees, and embellished with tropical flowers. The most common among the first, are those of the orange, lemon, fig, and pomegranate. There is a handsome little fountain at the bottom of the garden, and in the evening numbers of people are to be seen walking here, or reposing under the trees.

It is a fact not generally known, that, about ten miles out of Rio Janeiro, the late king had a large garden, exclusively, I believe, appropriated to the raising of *Tea*; ten or twelve *Chinese Gardeners* resided here, and the article was raised in abundance: the site of the garden was but a short distance from the sea.

The Opera-House of Rio, standing in a noble square, is a large and handsome structure. The dramatists were nearly all from Italy; and, although the music was excellent, the performances were but little above mediocrity.

A short distance from the Opera, stood an immense wooden building, which was appropriated to the Bull-Fights—that disgrace to civilization. Like the Roman amphitheatre, it was circular, and not roofed in. It had three gateways to it, for the admission of the bulls and of the horsemen. The royal box, a few feet above the arena, was most superbly adorned, and immediately over the entrance, the arms of Portugal were emblazoned. The interior of the theatre was well painted, and presented a neat appearance. I was present at one of the Bull-Fights, here exhibited, upon the festival of a Catholic *Saint*. The seats, though capable of containing upwards of 4,000 people, were

soon filled; and those of the upper range, entirely occupied by *ladies*! Bands of music entertained the audience between the defeat of one bull, and the bringing in of another. I shall not attempt to describe this very inhuman exhibition—suffice it to say, that the bulls are fought by men, on horse-back, and on foot; that they are lanced, and stabbed; and have squibs, and other fire-works (which are attached to sharp-pointed steel), darted into their sides and back, which exploding, cause indescribable agony to the animal; who now roars, and foams, and makes after both man and beast, till some dexterous fellow, with a sharp poignard, plants it in his back, and, at once, puts an end to his life and to his torments. Throughout the whole of this bloody scene, the females are seen waving their handkerchiefs, and shouting *vivas*—a scene, than which, I should not suppose there could be one more illy suited to the female character.

The Exchange of Janeiro is a very handsome building, of Gothic architecture; it is but a short distance from the Custom-House, and close to the bay.

The royal Navy Yard is not very extensive; the buildings for the artificers, are small, and the largest vessel they had on the stocks, when I were there, was a yatcht, about 40 tons burden, intended for the queen: one of these, splendidly gilt, was lying at anchor off the yard; and the men attached to this vessel, wore Turkish attire.

The churches of Rio Janeiro are numerous. They are generally built of stone, and their interiors are enriched with a profusion of gold and silver ornaments. Many of them stand on lofty eminences. Their altars are handsomely adorned with artificial flowers, with leaves, and with strips of gold and silver lace. On the days of festival, they are very numerously attended by the inhabitants; bands of music playing, with but little intermission, the whole time, whilst numerous sky-rockets are exploding throughout the day and night.

The funerals of the higher classes, in this city, are uncommonly splendid. While in Rio, I was present at the interment of the Pope's Nuncio, in the convent of St. Benedict. It was showy and solemn. The procession consisted of several hundred soldiers (infantry and cavalry), a vast concourse of monks, friars, and priests, and a large assemblage of the nobility. The interment took place precisely

at twenty minutes past 7 o'clock, P. M. It was announced by repeated volleys of musketry, the roar of cannon, the ringing of bells, and the explosion of rockets. His body, superbly dressed, after being lowered into the grave, was covered with quick-lime.

I also witnessed the burial of the Port-Admiral of Rio-Janeiro, an Irishman. He was interred, by torch-light, in the convent of St. Antonio, which was brilliantly illuminated upon the occasion. A band of music was playing at the entrance; fire-works, especially sky-rockets, were continually exploding, and the spectators were conversing, laughing, and feasting, as if it were a holiday instead of an interment. The body being brought into the centre of the convent, wax candles were placed at the head and feet, a psalm was chaunted by the choristers, an ejaculatory prayer was offered up by a friar, the superior administered the incense, and the people dispersed. The lights were now extinguished, and only two or three persons remained to perform the last rites to the deceased. He was buried in his naval uniform, with his sword. Brazilian females and infants, are covered with flowers and dressed in their richest attire, at their interments. As soon as the religious services are performed, the relations and others retire, and leave the interring of the body, which is generally covered with lime, to negroes.

Much has been said respecting the immorality of the Brazilian padres, or priests. My opportunities for ascertaining the truth of these reports, were limited, but I have seen some of them drink Port, at my boarding-house, until they became intoxicated. In the houses of the wealthy, were one of them frequently makes part of the family, they are accustomed to play at chess, chequers, &c. with the inmates. They lead a very idle life, and from their general corpulency, I should judge that their viands are savoury, and that they do not exercise much self-denial.

The religious processions in Rio Janeiro exceeded, in variety and grandeur, any thing of the kind I had ever seen in Catholic countries. Santos dias, or holidays, were continually occurring, and, as a heavy penalty awaited those foreigners who might be working on these occasions, they were a great hindrance to the industrious mechanic.

The inhabitants of Rio, generally speaking, are well attired. The favourite dress of the gentlemen, appeared to be

a coat and pantaloons of black broad cloth, with Asian boots. Many of them wore badges of distinction suspended to the button holes of their coat. The exterior garments of the ladies were principally of black silk. They do not wear bonnets, and their hair is neatly bedecked with artificial flowers, and with ribband. The jealousy of the Brazilians with respect to their females, is such, that it is an actual *curiosity* to see a lady in the streets of Rio, in the day time, except on holidays. Very early in the morning, one may catch a glimpse of them stealing to vespers, or late at night, enveloped in their serge hoods, returning from the mass, or the confession. The ladies are accustomed to eat their meals apart from the gentlemen, and it would be reckoned a singular honour, should a Brazilian introduce his dearest friend to his wife.

Two-thirds of the inhabitants of Rio, are said to be people of colour. Hundreds of slaves, in the streets, have nothing more to cover their nakedness, than a piece of cloth around the waist. They take the place of horses in this city, as nearly all the burdens, slung upon poles, are borne to their destination by these oppressed people; and yet they appear to be happy, and as they pass along the streets, are continually whistling or singing their own country airs. Large groupes of them, of both sexes, assemble on Sundays in the suburbs of Rio, to sing and dance and revel. The construction of their musical instruments, their *music* itself, and the varied dance and gesture of these Africans, never fail to attract the attention of hundreds of the white inhabitants. Whilst I resided at Rio, several large ships came in, filled with negroes; a very long street near their anchorage, is almost exclusively appropriated to the sale of slaves. At the vendues, they are exposed to view from the aged valetudinarian, to the little infant—

“ Muling and puling in its nurse’s arms.”

like so many sheep. The buyers examine their teeth and every part of their bodies, as if they were purchasing horses. The price of these wretched human beings varied, as the markets were, or were not glutted;—200 dollars was the average sum paid for a black woman; 500 for a man.

In passing through the streets of Rio, you are continually

meeting pairs of lazy, insolent soldiers; they have always their side-arms with them, and it is their business to interfere and prevent disturbances in the streets; but they occasion as many as they prevent.

Assassinations are very common in the city. I frequently saw dead bodies in the streets. It is said that murder is practised systematically here, as in Italy, and that for a small sum, one may get his adversary consigned to the shades, by the numerous and regular grades of miscreants, that are to be found in Rio. However this may be, it is a fact that, some little time previous to my leaving the city, the wife of a gentleman of high distinction at court, was stabbed as she was entering her house, in the suburbs, one evening. Her death occasioned much excitement at Rio, and her friends, instituted a strict enquiry into the affair; it resulted in the apprehension of three ruffians, who were each, though not alike implicated. It appeared, on their examination, that the one who actually killed the lady, was an understrapper, and was paid but five mil-reas for the act; his employer was another bandit, who received 20; and he again was hired by a third, who received 50. But the master-spirit,—the original designer of the bloody transaction,—was a female, a rival of the murdered lady's! It appeared that the husband of the deceased, had been for some time in the habit of keeping, at one of his country casas, a courtesan, formerly attached to the Opera, and, in one of his moments of dalliance with her, had declared, that as soon as his wife died, he would exalt her to her situation. Fired with ambition, the Cyprian flew to a bandit, pointed out her victim, and paid down the purchase-money; this assassin hired a second to commit the act, and he a third. A fit opportunity did not occur till four months after the bargain had been struck, and the *murderer's* fee scarcely amounted to seven dollars!

Landing at Rio, my brother and myself went to board at the house of one Senor Antonio, in Joseph street. He had been in the British naval service nineteen years, and, although a native of Portugal, spoke good English. My brother obtained immediate employment with a Mr. Gover, an Englishman. I was not so fortunate. There was but one Printing-Office in the city, and in it, 5 presses were at work. They printed a semi-weekly quarto news-

paper, in *English* type, and were also engaged in printing "Malthus's Political Economy," &c. at the time of my visit. Neither compositors or pressmen appeared to be so good, or so expeditious workmen as those of the United States. They were principally from Oporto and Lisbon. Their types were from the foundries of New-York and London. A small type foundry was attached to the Printing-Office. A junta, (a body of five men) presided over this establishment; they met every Saturday, in a building, adjoining it, and it was utterly impossible to get any thing printed, till it had undergone their inspection, and received their signature—no, not even a card, an advertisement, a death, or a marriage! The foreman told me, that if I wanted employment, I must apply to them, as no person could be hired or discharged without their permission. I met the gentlemen, stated my object, and was desired to call on the ensuing Saturday. On the day appointed, I attended, with a person who spoke the Portuguese fluently. They held a long conference with him, and finally concluded not to engage me, in consequence, as the interpreter informed me, *of my coming from the U. States!* A short distance from this printing-office, there was another for the printing of playing cards. Forty journeymen were employed in this building, and if I had been acquainted with this business, or with that of wood-engraving, I could have obtained immediate employment. Having no farther hopes of work at my own profession, I turned my attention to carpentering, and worked with my brother at a business to which I was totally unused, and which I found very distressing in this warm climate.

About three miles from Rio Janeiro, one Senor Silva was causing a Paper-Mill to be erected. My brother was engaged to work a fortnight upon this mill, and I accompanied him. Nothing could be more picturesque than the site of this establishment—which was the only one in the country. It stood at the foot of a lofty mountain; which was clothed with gigantic trees, the branches of which were thronged with monkeys and parrots. The stream that supplied the water-wheel, rushed with prodigious force down the mountain's side, and was, in no part, more than five feet wide, whilst the wheel which it drove was but three. The antiquated method of beating the rags to pulp, by means of stampers, was used here, instead of the less-complicated and

ingenious cast-iron roller of the paper-engines of the United States. It may not be deemed irrelevant, to relate an anecdote, which occurred whilst I worked here, and as it relates to the present Emperor of Brazil*, it may be interesting. I had often heard, at the city, that this gentleman, (then only plain Don Pedro,—Peter, the king of Portugal's eldest son, and whom, it is well known, married one of the Emperor of Austria's daughters,) lived upon very uncomfortable terms with his wife. Many anecdotes were in circulation respecting his amours with a certain Italian Inamorata of the Opera-House, and also with some of the Donnas attached to the Royal household. One morning, as early as 7 o'clock, this Don Pedro drove up to the paper-mill, in an open barouche-and-four, attended by his wife and child, and one footman only: he drove himself. They came with the intention of viewing the paper mill, and Senor Silva attended them. It was amusing to see the crouching Brazilian workmen falling on their knees to kiss the hands of their lord and her ladyship, as they entered. Politeness induced me to take off my hat. My brother was at this time *cogging* a wheel, and Don Pedro appeared to view it, as did his lady, with peculiar interest. He had something very noble in his manner, and his eyes appeared full of vivacity. The countenance of the lady, though pale, was more than usually interesting, and I thought I could discern that she was not so happy as she might have been. Their dresses had nothing to distinguish them from genteel citizens, but the infant, which she carried in her arms, was most richly attired. Adjoining to the room in which we wrought, though separated by a thick wall, the stampers, of which I have spoken, were set at work. To those who are unacquainted with paper-mills, it is necessary to say, that whilst in operation, they make an astounding clamor. After going to view these stampers, Don Pedro returned to carry his lady, but she appeared to be so frightened at the noise, that she had no inclination to become a spectatress. Entreating her for some time, he went back apparently mortified; he however soon returned, and again attempted to persuade her to accompany him; but in vain. His face

* It must be familiar, no doubt, to the Reader, that, after the departure of the late king, from Rio Janeiro, for Portugal; his son, Don Pedro, without the consent of his father, assumed the reins of government, and was declared Emperor of Brazil.

now became suffused with crimson, and forcibly taking the infant from her arms, he carried *it* into the room; and, in a few minutes, returning, he once more intreated her to follow him, and took hold of her hand with the intention of compelling her; she resisted with all her might, and, at length, caught hold of the carpenter's bench; upon this, he gave her a very violent push, and she would have fallen, had not a Brazilian carpenter caught her in his arms. She now retreated to the mill-door, and there I saw the present Empress of Brazil sob as if her heart would break. Don Pedro soon after came out from the Engine-House, and they mounted their carriage, and drove away.

Whilst working at this place, we had to sleep in the mill; and our situation, in many other respects, was so disagreeable, that, although intreated by Mr. Silva to tarry longer, at the expiration of a fortnight, we went back to the city. Attached to this gentleman's premises, was an extensive Calico-Printing Manufactory.

Returning to the employment of Mr. Gover, we continued in it for some weeks; until a Mr. Gilmore, who was building a steam flour-mill (the only one in the country) for a Swedish merchant in the suburbs of the city, came and engaged my brother to go into the interior, about forty miles, to erect a saw-mill for a Donna Marianne. This lady was of one of the first families in the country. She possessed two immense plantations of the sugar-cane and of coffee; on each of which she employed 5 or 600 negro slaves. On one of these, called Palmares, it was intended to erect the mill.

We journeyed up on mules; and as it was on the mine-road to Villa Rica, we were continually passing large droves of these animals, travelling to the city with the produce of the interior. The miners, like the Chilians, wore the poncho, with white, broad-brimmed, felt hats: each of these men carried a knife in a sheath behind them, and were frequently armed with musket or pistol. The law not permitting these miners, nor in fact any one, to carry a knife about them, within the city, they leave them at a tavern, near the king's country palace, previous to their entering Rio. These mules often travel to the mine districts of Villa Rica, some three hundred miles above the city. They carry up with them agricultural and mining implements, copper utensils, bar iron, various articles of clothing, muskets,

and cutlery. In consequence of the immense traffic upon this road, it is well stocked with taverns; in front of many of which, during our journey, we saw parties of the miners; squatting on the grass, playing at cards; and silver and gold appeared to be pretty plentiful among them. The country through which we passed, was very pleasant; and the hills and vallies, were studded with planter's houses, enveloped in orangeries.

Palmares, is a perfect Elysium. It is situated in a vast valley, and is completely surrounded with groves of orange, lemon, coffee and cotton trees, and with cane brake. On the estate was a large sugar house; a blacksmith's shop; numberless quartering-houses for the negro slaves; and a handsome mansion for the occasional visits of the Donna. The machinery for breaking the cane went by water, and was constructed by the *mine-millwrights* of Villa Rica.

Monkeys were abundant in the woods around Palmares, as well as birds and snakes. Of birds, it was a common remark, that (like the Hindostanee Peacock), those of the most elegant plumage, were no songsters—and, of snakes, that the bite of those was the most dangerous, which in appearance, were the most beautiful. Wild bees were common in the woods, with myriads of emmets. Insects, of every hue, and size, and shape, were flitting about in the plantations: several French, Italians, and English, gain a comfortable subsistence by taking these. They catch them in nets of silk, attached to poles, and secure them, for the time being, by thrusting pins through their bodies and sticking them on their hats. Boxes of these insects are despatched from Rio Janeiro to the United States, and to Europe. I was told that some of these boxes would sell for twenty pounds sterling, in London. There are some hundred species of insects in the Brazils.

Three miles from Palmares, stands the town of Santos Cruz: the late king had a neat palace at this place. A short distance from the town, on the road to Villa Rica, is a bridge; and all persons, travelling to the mine-districts, have here to produce their passports from the Minister of the Interior before they are allowed to journey on.

We wrought for some time in the delightful vale of Palmares, when an unlooked-for accident, beyond our control, put a stop to the progressing of the saw-mill, and an end to

our engagement with the Donna Marianne. Leaving it, we returned to the employment of Mr. Gover, and once more boarded with Senor Antonio. Although we paid him \$4 per week, each, for our board, it was, by no means so good as could have been obtained in New-England, for \$2: the method of cooking was entirely dissimilar. We were compelled to drink our tea without milk, whilst the sugar which we used, was frequently filled with ants; as was the bread, butter, and soups, with these or other vermin, as soon as brought to table; then our repose at night (if *repose* it might be called), was continually interrupted by the heat, or by insects*. I can truly say, that I did not enjoy one refreshing and undisturbed night's slumber, whilst I was in this country. In the winter months, the climate was so sultry, that the bare act of putting on my clothes, frequently put me into a profuse perspiration; and how enfeebled I felt, whilst planeing the hard woods of Brazil, at mid-day, is easier imagined, than described. If the sun, whilst in Capricorn, was so disagreeably intense, what must it have been in summer? I thank my lucky stars, and the frigate Constellation, that I had not an opportunity of knowing by experience.

The beef of Rio, is lean and tasteless. The animals being driven from the provinces of Rio Grande and St. Paul, some hundred miles from the city, arrive here completely emaciated; they are all purchased by government, and are sacrificed at one slaughter house; from which monopoly, they derive an immense profit. Hogs, after being killed, have the hair scorched, instead of being scalded, off of them: the meat by this means, will keep longer.

Clothes, of every kind, are as cheap in Janeiro as at New York; wine of Oporto, but 25 cents per bottle; and for a *vingt-un* (something more than 21 cents), one may purchase 15 oranges. Brazil has many rich mines of gold, of silver, and of precious stones; especially diamonds. This country also abounds in valuable woods; I believe there are upwards of 150 species.

After remaining at Janeiro upwards of 3 months, and becoming heartily sick of it, and the U. S. frigate Constellation, being about to sail from this port for Valparaiso, in Chili, I

* An insect, known by the name of jigger, is very common at Rio Janeiro. They insert themselves into the skin of the foot. I came near losing two or three of my toes by them.

applied to the commander, C. W. RIDGELY, Esq. for a passage; and some four days after, myself and brother went on board. I was placed in the Carpenter's Yeoman's store-room, whilst my brother joined the carpenter's gang.

Having never sailed in a frigate before, every thing I saw appeared strange. She was a fine vessel, and carried (if my memory serves me), 7 lieutenants, 25 midshipmen, 50 guns, and upwards of 300 men. We slept in hammocks; and turned out every morning, at 4 o'clock, by beat of drum. At 8 o'clock at night, hammocks were piped down, and one watch turned in. Our living was very good; we were divided into messes of 10 men, and each mess, beside the regular rations of beef, pork, and bread, were allowed two plum-puddings per week, with a sufficiency of pickles. At 6 o'clock, in the evening, we had partial quarters, when every soul in the ship had to be at his station at the guns or elsewhere, and go through the manœuvres of combatting an enemy; and each sunday, we had general quarters, when, after performing every evolution necessary in battle, the crew mustered on the quarter-deck to have the cleanliness of their clothes and persons inspected by the commander. One would have been delighted with the appearance of the ship's rigging, the whiteness of her decks, brightness of her guns, and arrangement of her crew. Our passage was but two months to Valparaiso. How safe and certain is a voyage in a man-of-war! The very morning of the day that we made the *Falkland Isles*, we were told, that, at 4 o'clock, A.M. we should see them; and, at that hour, the cry from the mast-head, was—"Land O!" So in the morning of the day on which we descried the land of Chili, we heard that we should see it before 10 o'clock; at 8, the fog in which we had been enveloped, dispersed, and lo! what a wondrous sight appeared! The vast range of the Andes! The white clouds curling round their bases—their summits far exceeding, in height, any thing I had ever before witnessed! The snow resting on these, while the sun's rays covered the whole with gold, created such sensations as I can never forget.

Our passage round the Horn, although tempestuous, was, upon the whole, a favourable one; and, if I had not suffered from jiggers in my toes, which nothing but the cold could kill, I should have been very happy. When we made the land of Chili, we were to windward of our port 40 miles; we

squared away, and at 3 o'clock, p. m. came to anchor in the Bay of Valparaíso. There were nearly one hundred vessels lying here, among which were a British frigate and sloop-of-war.

VALPARAÍSO runs in one continued street around the margin of its bay, whose waters are so bold, that the shipping frequently lie at anchor within 200 yards of the shore, which is destitute of docks or wharves. The town stands at the foot of lofty hills. The south-western section, called the Almendral, is principally occupied by Indians and Cholos; the south-eastern extremity, stretches up a valley. It is defended by four forts, situated on commanding positions. The garrisons of these, consisted of about 400 regular troops. They made a despicable appearance; being dressed in cotton trowsers and jacket, with an hussar cap, and frequently destitute of shoes, but seldom without a *cuchillo*, or knife! which, in the dark, upon an unarmed or drunken man, they know well how to use. Negroes and whites, Indians, Cholos and *Mestizos**, old men and boys, the very off-scouring of society, compose the *patriotic* troops of Valparaíso. Their pay being small, they gain their subsistence by robbery, extortion, and frequently by murder! They are not ashamed to beg by day, or to do the meanest acts for a subsistence; and they possess, withal, such a determined hostility to strangers, and such an opinion of their own bravery and discipline, as to justify the dislike that foreigners feel for them, and the abhorrence and contempt with which they are spoken of and treated by their own country-people, especially the *fair*. The soldiers are the same in most parts of this country. From Valdivia to Copiapo, "*los ladrones y picarones*" (the rascals and thieves), are the common expressions of the natives when they see a soldier. In the absence of laws to check their insolence, their ignorance, brutality, cupidity and villainy, excite them to deeds that shock humanity. It is unsafe to walk the streets by night; they will take the clothes from one's back, if they see an opportunity; and should they find foreigners assembled at a tavern in the evening, they will do their utmost to disturb their comfort, to excite a quarrel, and to shed blood. They

The *Mestizos* spring from the mixture of the white and Indian; and the Cholos from the commerce of the Indians and *Mestizos*; the latter "are said to surpass all other classes in bodily strength, activity, and in native genius."

take the lead in pulquerias (grog shops), and at the fandangos (dance houses); and strangers must look to it they do not thwart them.

Valparaiso is not very extensive; I presume it does not contain, including Indians, 8,000 people. The Governor's House is the largest in the town: it is but 3 stories in height, is built of stone, and has its exterior whitewashed. A guard of 20 soldiers are attached to this mansion, and it adjoins the fort in the market-place. The Custom-House fronts the landing-place: it is of great length, is but of 1 story in height, and resembles an American barn much more than the building it is intended for. The Navy-Yard is calculated for the building of boats only. The only improvement on it is a shed about 40 feet long, by 17 wide. Five or six carpenters, and as many labourers are employed in it. The *Calabozos* (prison), built of stone, is nearly as large as Boston jail; yet, although murderers, thieves, vermin and disease, are its constant inmates, I never heard of the incarceration of one for DEBT! A small guard of soldiers attend here, and a bribe will often set a prisoner at liberty, no matter what his crime.

The streets of Valparaiso are narrow, and are paved with flag-stones. The houses are principally of 1 story: the town being subject to earthquakes. The houses are built of bricks, 2 feet long by 1 wide, *baked in the sun!* Their roofs are either tiled, or thatched with straw. The wood-work of these dwellings, though strong, is of clumsy manufacture. In lieu of windows, they use lattice shutters; and panes of glass are very uncommon. The floor of the houses belonging to the lower classes, are neither paved, or boarded, nor has the house a chimney. The fire that warms the room is of charcoal, and stands in the centre of it, in a copper-bowl, which has three legs; that used for cooking, is generally kept in a back-room, apart from the dwelling. Opposite the door of the house, and the whole length of the room, with a correspondent width, there is a raised place on the floor, which is covered with a carpet, or with mats; it is on this raised place that the females of the house squat to work, or to receive their visitors. Tables and chairs are seldom found in the houses of the indigent. A few pictures of Saints adorning the naked walls; two or three chests of *bull-hide*, containing their wardrobe; a silver *matte-pot*, with 3 legs; some

few religious books; a wooden crucifix; a large stone jar, which contains the drinking water, and the gourd-shell that conveys it to the mouth, is a faithful inventory of the articles in these Chilian habitations. In a small apartment adjoining the sitting-room, a few boards are tacked together for the resting place of the parents; whilst the children huddle on the floor, with a mat under them, and a rug above them, to screen them from the wind and from the rain; the former creeping through crannies in the wall, the latter through crevices in the roof.

The huts, of one apartment only, in which the Indians vegetate, are extremely wretched. The sides and roof of these, are thatched with a few poor flags or grass, that afford but little shelter from the elements. One or two mats on the floor, serve for their beds, and sheep-skins cover them: they always lie in their clothes. These dwellings abound in vermin. Apart from the house, is an oven for baking, and near it, holes in the ground serve as fire-places for the earthen pots in which they boil and stew. High-seasoned soups, stews, and boiled beans, constitutes the principal living of the poorer classes of this country. They use neither table-cloth, plate, or fork in eating; their cookery is not the cleanliest, nor are their viands the most savoury.

The churches of Valparaiso are six; they are large, and are built of stone. Wooden images of saints, and gold and silver crucifixes and candlesticks, are abundant within them. The Chilians are much attached to the Romish religion, and they do not, I presume, tolerate any other. A Protestant must renounce his persuasion previous to marrying a Catholic, and the latter ceremony, at Valparaiso, will cost 12 dollars. The churches are always open, and one may, by day or by night, pay his devoirs to any saint in the calendar. The superstition of the people, is only equalled by the ignorance and wickedness of the priests; and I presume if they cannot boast of the number of souls converted, they far surpass all others in the number of females seduced. The luckless Chilian girl has often to undergo a private closetting with a *padre* or priest, to confess her sins, and frequently to commit more, by surrendering her person to these filthy hypocrites to obtain absolution for the past, and this again to be washed away by the self-same process. I was informed at Valparaiso, that a girl, if she was pretty,

could seldom escape these all-devouring padres; and even when wanting in beauty, youth would turn the scale, and she would follow the fate of the loveliest.

One evening, when I went as usual to visit a young Chilean female, named Clara Rosa, who was teaching me the Spanish language, I fancied her face looked paler than usual, and that she had been weeping. I found, by enquiry, that, at her *confession* to one of these "father's in God," that day, she had avowed her partiality to a Protestant. After the padre had harangued, for a considerable time, about the damnable sin of esteeming a *heretic*, and *strengthened* his argument by attempting to take indecent liberties with her, which she spiritedly prevented, he, by way of punishment, ordered her to repeat 7,000 pater-nosters in one week.

These priests wear a broad-brimmed hat, and a long cloak, of white broad-cloth. The hair on the crown of their heads is shaved off, as well as at the back of the neck, leaving a circle of it round their heads about 2 inches wide.

Valparaiso swarms with courtezans, many of whom are very young. I presume that this may be traced to the little attention that is paid by parents to the education and morals of their female offspring; to the baseness of their spiritual teachers, who labour assiduously to lead the youthful astray; to their being suffered to frequent the fandangos (dance house), for hours together, both by day and night, where they get attached to liquor, and imbibe ill-manners; and last, though not least, to there not being the same scandal attached to the character of a prostitute *here*, as in other countries. Infamy is so far from attending the mother of an illegitimate child, the mistress of a gentleman, or the common courtesan of the streets, that either are accounted as eligible for servants, or for wives, as if they possessed their chastity uncontaminated, and their manners and ideas unsullied.

The fandangos-houses here, are generally kept by Chileans; in these, persons of both sexes, the young and the old, assemble of an evening for the purpose of dancing. Their method of dancing is pretty much the same throughout Chile, and often indecent. But two persons, one of each sex, stand up at a time. Their music is the guitar and harp; generally accompanied by a love song from one of the musicians. Liquors, cordials and wines, are vended at these

houses, which are very numerous at Valparaiso. I have known very young children to play the guitar, and to dance. The Chilian youths frequently serenade their dulcineas, in the dead of night, after the manner of the old Spaniards; but not always for the same reason, as here they can get sufficient access to them.

The courtesy of the inhabitants of Valparaiso is extreme; and foreigners, in passing their houses, are generally invited to enter. They will quit their work to discourse with you, and take every pains to explain what you may wish to ascertain. If at their meals, you will have an invitation to partake of their cheer: a refusal is a certain affront.

The lower class of citizens, as well as the soldiery, are much given to lay violent hands upon what is not theirs, especially the market people; nor do the female part of the community disdain to peculate. Many ladies of high standing here, are so given to purloining, that, when invited on board of ships in the harbour, the steward has his orders to keep a sharp look-out that they do not make free with the knives and forks, the table and tea-spoons, and in fact any thing that is convenient to carry away.

The people of Chili may be divided into 3 grades. The upper classes (owners of mines or extensive farms) are immensely rich; the middling class consist of tradesmen, and small farmers, who gain a comfortable subsistence; the third grade consist of labourers, soldiers, &c. who are miserably poor. That marked distinction that exists between the higher and lower classes in Europe, is not to be found here. Chilian politeness suffers not the repulsion of the lowest of the low from the houses of the opulent; and at the dancing and coffee-houses, the company and the conversation is frequently general. Negroes, mulattoes, Indians, and whites, are upon an equality. The three former have often handsome native women for their wives.

The Chilian gentlemen dress much after the same manner as those of Rio Janeiro. The ladies are principally attired in black, and they are passionately fond of silks. They do not wear bonnets, and their hair is neatly arranged, and adorned with artificial flowers. Large ear rings of gold; many rings on the fingers, of both gold and silver; a chain of gold around the neck, to which is suspended a cross of silver; or a silk cord, to which is attached a scapulary, or

cross, of needle-work, in which they place great faith, and without which, no one can be a good Catholic; the frock so made as to display a great proportion of the neck and bosom, as well as of the legs, in consequence of its shortness; silk stockings and morocco shoes, complete the account of the exterior habiliments of the ladies of the higher classes. When they walk abroad, they throw a shawl of black serge over their heads. The Chilian ladies are fantastical in the different colours of their gloves, handkerchiefs, frocks of gauze, and in the slips of ribband that adorn their hair.

The women of the lower class seldom wear any thing beside a chemise and petticoat; the former being of coarse cotton, and the latter of thick blue woollen, manufactured in the country. Their shawls are of various coloured woollens, and they have a peculiar method of wearing them, either in dancing or in walking. They dispense with stockings, and frequently with shoes. The dress of the men (farmers and others), consists of a blue cotton handkerchief bound tight round the head, and over it a straw hat, with a broad brim; the scapulary round the neck; a coarse white cotton shirt; a blue do. jacket, and over it the *poncho*;^{*} white cotton trowsers, that reach just below the knee, and over them breeches of blue woollen: they seldom wear stockings. A Chilian yeoman, in his ordinary dress, would be deemed a curiosity in the New-England Museum.

The complexion of the people of this country is some shades darker than that of the inhabitants of the U. States. The Chilian women are generally short of stature, and fleshy. Lamé and deformed persons are rarely to be met with, and I saw but few people who were marked with the small pox.

The climate of this country is delightful; it is supposed to equal, if not surpass, any in the world. "The Chilian spring commences on the 22d of September, the summer in December, the autumn in March, and the winter in June. In summer Reaumur's thermometer seldom rises above 25 degrees; and in winter the rivers are never frozen," and snow

* If you took a blanket, and cut a hole in the centre of it, and thrust your head through that hole, you would then have an idea how the *poncho* sits upon a person. It was the ancient robe of the Araucanians (the Indians who reside in the southern part of this country), and who used it in preference to the jacket, as it permits the arms to be free. These ponchos are wove of woollen and of silk; they are of many colours, and cost from 5 to 150 dollars a piece.

is but seldom found in the plains. Lightning is wholly unknown, and thunder is but occasionally heard at a great distance over the Andes.* Much of the soil is so fertile as to produce two crops yearly; and which, it is said, will yield 100 for 1. "Mallows, trefoil, plantains, endive, mint, pimento, celery, cresses, mustard, fennel, turnips, and parsnips, grow naturally in the fields. The Chilians do not provide hay for their cattle, as the herbage never fails."

In the vicinity of Valparaiso, fruits of most kinds thrive in great perfection; especially dates, mulberries, prunes, figs, olives, citrons, pomegranates, and pine-apples. Quinces grow to an enormous size—often larger than a man's head†, and the inhabitants take but little account of them. Strawberries frequently reach the size of a hen's egg, and are of 3 colours, red, white and yellow. The cheapness of apples, pears, plums, grapes and peaches, would almost exceed belief. Oxen are plentiful, as well as poultry; 3 and 4 cents are given per pound for meat, and 20 cents for a hen. Turkeys, geese, ducks, eggs, milk, vegetables of every European kind, and many whose names I am unacquainted with, abound here, and are low-priced. Among the nuts, the most common are the English walnut, chesnuts, hazel and ground nuts, filberts and almonds.

The water of Valparaiso is good, and very abundant, as also is bread. Tea is but partially used, as well as coffee; in lieu of which, they sip *matte*‡, which has a taste similar to tea, but is much stronger, and very pleasant. This *matte* is sipped out of a three-legged silver cup, through a narrow tube of the same metal; it is passed round to all the family, and generally after meals. It is over the *matte*-cup that the Chilian women gossip. Wine is plentiful at Valparaiso, and but 6 cents per bottle: of one kind only. The *Sidra*, or cider, is a pleasant drink; it is of a reddish colour, and somewhat cheaper than wine. *Mestilla* is a kind of cordial for which the ladies here, have a particular *penchant*. *Agua ardiente*, or ardent water, the principal spirit used in South America, is distilled either from wheat, grapes, or the sugar-cane; it is of great strength, although not an agreeable drink, and it costs but little.

The horses of this country are middle-sized, and extremely

* See Molina's Chili.

† Ibid.

‡ A herb of Paraguay: here worth four dollars per pound.

fleet and sure footed; they are very docile, and are trained up in a superior style. As they are seldom used but for riding, they will perform very long journies, and will travel, at full gallop, up the steepest hills. The hire of a horse at Valparaiso, is a dollar per day; and they are to be purchased from \$10 to 30. The Chilians are excellent riders, and require but the great toe in the stirrup. Very young children will sit a horse going at full gallop, without a saddle, and with only a leathern halter round his neck. In lieu of a saddle, the Chilians use sheep-skins; which are dyed of elegant colours. The stirrups are of wood, and will frequently weigh 2 pounds each. The spurs are of silver, and very large: these have long goads. The bridle is composed of thongs of well-braided hide, and the whip, resembling a cat-o'-nine-tails, attached to it. Every Chilian carries a *laqui* when riding. This is composed of thongs of hide, five or six fathoms in length, and at one end a running noose. It is astonishing with what dexterity, going at full speed, they will throw this noose around the neck or legs of the animal they wish to catch.

Carts and waggons are not much used in this country; and what few there are, are so heavily and clumsily constructed, that it requires as much strength to start the waggon as the load. They, as well as the ploughs, are drawn by oxen, and their huge wheels being greased but seldom, produce a harsh grating noise: yet, although this may sound discordant to human ears, it is *music* to the bulls, as they will not travel without it.

Mules here are made use of to carry the burdens of the country; they are very abundant, and the distances they traverse, are immense. Many of the Chilian farmers own from 2 to 300 of them. There are asses, but they are not so numerous. It is said that the horses, oxen and sheep which have been imported into Chili, have improved in breed; and the same observation will apply to many transferred fruits, flowers and vegetables, which, in this country, thrive in greater perfection than they did in their own.

Valparaiso teems with dogs; it is not uncommon to see five and six prowling round a house; and wild dogs line the woods and highways. It is well they are cowardly, or they might do much mischief; yet, although afraid of men, they have been known to attack horses.

Snakes are seldom found at Valparaiso, and indeed there are but few in the country. Small lizards are seen moving about, or basking in the sun, but they are perfectly harmless.

The birds of Chili (according to Molina), amount to 135 species; among which are herons, kites, falcons, blackbirds, pigeons, crows, partridges, turtle doves, grouse, wood-peckers, quails, owls, humming birds, curlews, parrots, swans, eagles, ostriches and vultures. There is a bird in Chili called the *Thenca*, which is said to surpass the mocking-bird of the United States in the variety of its sounds, and in the melody of its voice. The largest bird in this country is the Condor Minor of the Andes.

Fish are found in Valparaiso bay in prodigious quantities, and indeed in every part of the country that I have seen. Breams, soles, king-fish, cod-fish, mackerel, pilchards, crawfish, crabs, lobsters, muscles and perriwinkles, are but a small part of the fish that are found here. A species of yellow eel called *Congrio*, are in much esteem in Chili.

The south-eastern section of Valparaiso (as before-mentioned), inhabited principally by Indians, is called the Almendral. The high road to Santiago, the metropolis of Chili, runs through it, as do the greater part of the roads to the country. These Indians subsist by fishing, and by selling fruit. They pride themselves on the length of their hair, which is very coarse. The Indian females are extremely prolific: it is not uncommon to see eight or ten little naked children playing around their doors.

The inhabitants of the Almendral are very ignorant, and at night will often insult, and otherwise ill-use, strangers. They are taught to consider all people who are not Catholics *Burros*, or asses, and they take pleasure, and frequent occasion, to address this epithet to foreigners.*

It may not be unentertaining, in this place, to relate a few anecdotes, the circumstances of some of which transpired whilst I was at Valparaiso; they may be relied upon, and will serve to give a correct idea of the disposition of the soldiers, Indians, Cholos, &c.

* I have read, since my return to the United States, that the principal part of the inhabitants of Valparaiso considered the late earthquake, which destroyed a considerable part of the town, to have been a judgment upon them, in consequence of their permitting foreign heretics (Protestants) to domicile in their country. Many strangers were in danger of assassination at this moment of high excitement.

Sometime before my arrival at Valparaiso, a midshipman, belonging to the British frigate *Hyperion*, and who died here, was buried on the beach, opposite the southern fort, the priests suffering none but Catholics to be interred in their consecrated grounds. The next morning, I blush to write it, his naked body lay exposed to the sun, *robbed* of its shroud and of its coffin! He was a second time buried, in a grave eighteen feet deep; and being too deep for these monsters to fathom, he rested in peace.

The captain of the *Doris* (an English frigate), who died in doubling Cape Horn, and who was taken, preserved in spirits, to Valparaiso, for interment, was, at the express desire of the British officers, buried within a fort, and in a grave twelve feet deep, to preserve his remains from being disturbed by ruthless demons.

There have been several instances of foreigners, (who were not *Papists*), being torn from their fresh graves, their bodies mutilated, and their shroud and coffins gone. The writer of the following pages, was twice, whilst at Valparaiso, invited to the funeral of Americans, who were to be interred in the dead of night, and far from the town, accompanied by people of their own persuasion only, that their place of burial might not be known to the natives.

Some years since, a Mr. L**, from England, went to Valparaiso with the intention of keeping a tavern and coffee-house. After a short residence, he became criminally intimate with one of his servants, a young Chilian female, and in process of time she had a boy. About this period, Mrs. L**, the wife of the before-mentioned gentlemen, quite unexpectedly, made her appearance at Valparaiso from London. An explanation took place, and the girl was discharged, vowing vengeance against her *rival*, as she termed the landlady. Mrs. L** was a compassionate woman, and believing that the girl had suffered sufficiently, she sent her some clothes, offered to bring up the infant, and desired its mother to come to her house whenever she was in want of any thing. She did go the house, and she was revenged with a vengeance, for two months afterwards, Mrs. L** was no more. She died by slow poison, which the girl afterwards confessed she had administered, and for which, her Chilian neighbours were wont to applaud her. This lady was buried in a field at the back of the Soldier's Hospital,

at the Almendral, in a very deep grave, and Mr. L** caused her body to be guarded for a week. A great number of foreigners were at her funeral, and the taunts, jeers, and laughter of the Chilian men, women and children present, were certainly ill-timed and disgraceful.

The natives are well acquainted with the poisons of the country; and it is said that they possess one so subtle as to cause instant death; whilst another, slower, but quite as certain, and far more dreadful in its operation, will prey upon the vitals till it has reduced you to a skeleton, and finally destroyed you.

An American by the name of D***, the keeper of a tavern at Valparaiso, died about this time: he also was poisoned by a Chilian girl, with whom he had had an illicit intercourse. Being about to marry a young female of good family, he informed his mistress that it was not his intention to live with her any longer; that he intended making her a handsome present, and expected she would return home to her mother. Determined upon revenge, she took occasion to infuse poison in his food, and after lingering six months, he quitted this mortal life, with the knowledge that she had boasted of the deed, and that she had gone unpunished!

The first lieutenant of the *Andromache*, a British frigate, having occasion to go on shore somewhat late one evening, ordered his men to stay by the boat, as his business would be short. They disobeyed his commands, and went up to a tavern to get some *agua ardiente*. In returning, they trod upon something in the sand; it was a man—their own lieutenant! Pierced with knife-wounds, naked as he was born, covered with blood and sand, and senseless! And all this done in less than two hours! In going down to the boat, although but a short distance from a *guard house*, six ruffians attacked, robbed, and, supposing him dead, partly buried him in the sand. After many months illness, he recovered.

The master-carpenter of the U. S. frigate *Constellation*, a Mr. E****, was, early one morning, found leaning against a door in the main street of Valparaiso, by a boat's crew of the said frigate. They spoke to him, but the vital spark had fled for ever; he was stabbed in many places with a bayonet, and was cold and stiff. This poor man, it is said, had been somewhat intoxicated the evening previous, and was thus unprepared, ushered into eternity.

A young seaman, who came to Valparaiso from Callao in the *Minerva*, a Chilian transport, becoming acquainted with one of the numerous Cyprians that frequent the fandangos, she consented, on a certain evening, to his accompanying her to her house. It appeared that this girl had an appointment with a soldier on the same night, and that this fellow had been an unseen witness of her departure from the fandangos with the seaman. Under cover of the darkness, he followed them, and stabbed the sailor with his bayonet one inch below the heart, whilst the girl fled to her home; where the soldier followed, and killed her. After the young man's recovery, he not having wherewith to discharge his doctor's bill, I drew up a petition, and a collection of upwards of forty dollars was made for him at the different foreign boarding-houses. The soldier, by way of punishment, was condemned to hard labour, with a chain round his leg, at the pleasure of the Governor.

About this time, a Swedish carpenter belonging to an English brig, was found stabbed, and his body so bruised, as to be scarcely recognized; as were also three Chilian girls, whom their soldier paramours suspected of being too intimate with foreigners. An English merchant residing at the Almendral, a sailor belonging to the *Andromache*, and a marine attached to the *Owen Glendower* (both British frigates), were severally stabbed and killed in one week. In vain did the English merchants attempt to discover the murderers of the merchant, or the captains of the frigates, by large rewards, those of their men; the remembrance of their untimely deaths was soon obliterated by the repetition of other murders equally horrible, and these again succeeded by more daring acts of the same nature. The fact is, that as all the Chilians carry knives, and are accustomed, from infancy, to employ them in their combats against each other, the wounding, or even *killing*, of a person, is scarcely talked, or thought of, and certainly costs no regret to the perpetrator.

I could relate many other anecdotes here, but it is presumed that enough has been said to give some idea of the scenes that frequently take place at Valparaiso.

Whilst I was in Chili, the commander of the Chilian fleet was Lord Cochrane. His martial deeds were well known here, before his arrival. The renown of this celebrated

man has lost nothing in the Chilian service. His taking the strong city of Valdivia; his attack on Chiloe; the sitting out three several squadrons for the reduction of Lima, and his capturing the Venganza and Esmeralda frigates from the enemy, are only a small part of the services he has rendered Chili. By the Chilians he is called *el Heroe*—the Hero, and well does he merit the appellation. His lordship was blockading Callao during the time that I remained at Valparaiso, but I saw his lady, a remarkably fine-looking woman, as well as her children, who came up from Lima in the British frigate *Andromache*, previous to their departure for England.

That she possesses bravery, as well as her husband, she evidenced, in trusting herself on shore at Lima, under the protection of Captain Sheriff, at the time Lord Cochrane* was blockading Callao. She was one day on board the *San Martin*, the admiral's flag-ship, when having stood farther in than usual, he was becalmed just without gun-shot of one of the forts. Several gun-boats stood out to attack his lordship, but a breeze springing up, he gave the boats a broadside, which sunk two of them. Lady Cochrane, in the meanwhile, stood on the quarter-deck undauntedly; and, whilst the fort was firing at the *San Martin* without intermission, she exclaimed, "My dear Cochrane, give them one shot more!" They fired another broadside, and stood out to join the squadron. To her praise it ought to be recorded, that on board of her husband's ship, and also in the frigate *Andromache*, she has frequently been the means of saving many sailors from a flogging. It was somewhat singular that the same vessel that conveyed her and her family to England should have had on board the wife and children of the Vice-King of Lima.

It is said that Lord Cochrane has realised an immense fortune in the Chilian service.

Whilst the Chilian fleet laid at Valparaiso, Lord Cochrane, his lady, and 1st lieutenant, went, late one evening, on shore. The admiral landing, desired Mr. Cobbett, his first lieutenant, to take care of his lady. "No" said she, "I am the wife of a sailor, and none but a sailor shall hand me out

* It appears that this officer has now entered into the service of the Emperor of Brazil.

of the boat.”* One of the boat’s crew offering his services, when on shore, she said “Cochrane, give that man an ounce.”†

The Chilian fleet, whilst I was at Valparaiso, consisted of five or six frigates, three sloops-of-war, some armed brigs and schooners, and several transports. Although each ship in the squadron had many foreign seamen aboard, it was manned principally by natives of the country. Nearly all the officers belonged to England and to the United States. These gentlemen conducted themselves very insolently, and they appeared to have great authority even on shore.

I one day heard an Englishman, a horse-dealer, ask a Patriot lieutenant (also from England), for the price of a horse which he had sold him. The lieutenant replied “that he could not be interrupted for such a trifling affair.” The person who sold the horse, rejoined, that twenty-five dollars was a consideration to a poor man, and that he must certainly apply to his superiors for the amount. “I acknowledge no superior,” said the officer, drawing his sword and striking the horse-dealer so forcibly across the shoulder with it, as to lay it open—“but there is part of the purchase money!” The poor man neither obtained satisfaction for the outrage nor pay for his horse.

All officers in the army and navy wear the Patriot cockade in their hats.

The colours of Chili are red and white, with a star.

The Chilian watch-word is *Viva la Patria* (long live the country); that of the Royalists—*Viva el Rey* (long live the king); it is needless to add that, in Chili, it would be dangerous to vociferate the latter; although I presume there are many to whose ears the latter expression sounds more agreeably than the former.

Foreigners were impressed into the service at the last fitting out of the fleet, by order of government; and those mechanics who declined going on board when applied to, to repair the shipping, were eventually compelled. Flogging was carried on to a great extent in the squadron. The pay of an able seaman was 12 dollars per month, and two months advance. The government *promise* to pay this; but I con-

* This expression would seem to convey an insult to Mr. Cobbett, although from her acknowledged preference to that gentleman, none could have been intended.

† A gold coin—here valued at 17 dollars.

versed with many officers and seamen who had belonged to the fleet, some for months, and others even for two years, to whom the government were still indebted, and they feared ever would be. To crown all, those foreigners who enter the Chilian navy, forfeit their allegiance to their native country*, and are no longer under its protection; saying nought of the company they get amongst of cholos, negroes, and renegadoes, and the chance they stand of being wounded, when they will neither receive pension, prize-money, or the comforts of a hospital.

After the capture of the Royalist frigate *Venganza*, 20 foreigners, the greater part Americans, went to Santiago, to solicit aid of the Supreme Director; they having lost one or other of their limbs in the engagement with the said frigate. All that they received was 20 dollars per man, with an order to quit the metropolis. Without a home, without support, what was now to become of these poor wretches?

The coins of this country are—1st. of gold, the *onzos*, or ounce, passing current for 17 dollars; the half and quarter do. There are smaller coins of this metal, but they are scarce. 2nd. of silver—the dollar, half and quarter do. the *rial*, *medios*, and *quartelos*. There are 8 rials, or 16 medios, or 32 quartelos, to a dollar. There is no copper coin in the country. To get an onzos, or doubloon, exchanged for silver, at Valparaiso, it is quite common to pay a premium of 50 cents, or purchase 2 dollars worth of articles. The coinage of the onzos is beautifully executed, that of the $\frac{1}{2}$ dollars and rials, very indifferently. The Chilian mint is in the city of Santiago.

No country in the world stands in more need of the mechanic arts, and none offers greater encouragement to certain mechanics, than Chili. At Valparaiso, the daily wages of carpenters, who are most required, of blacksmiths, cabinet-makers, hatters, tailors, shoemakers, &c. are 3 dollars per day. The Spanish carpenters, and other mechanics, are such wretched workmen, that foreigners are always preferred. Still it requires great prudence in those, not natives of the country, to acquire much money, for these reasons: 1st—

* The commanding British Officer on the South American station in 1821, when applied to by some English subjects in the Chilian fleet, returned for answer "that in entering the Chilian service, they had placed themselves out of the protection of the armed vessels of Great Britain."

because there are so many *santos dios* (saint's days) occurring, when one is not allowed to work; 2dly, from the *dearness* of board (\$4 per week); of washing (6d per piece); of lodging, of clothes, and of tools; 3dly, from the *CHEAPNESS* of ardent spirits, and of wine. To these may be added, that each boarding-house is a tavern also, which necessarily leads the boarders into company; then the want of good society; of Protestant places of worship (I presume there is not one in the country); the manner of spending the sabbath; the swarms of courtezans; and the numberless pleasures, which the frivolity of the natives, and the force of example, are continually leading the unwary foreigner to engage in.

Is the emigrant a young man? He certainly wishes to dress respectably; now what will his clothes cost him per year, when he must pay for a beaver hat, 12 dollars; for a linen shirt, 6; his coat, 40 : 45; trowsers, 16; waistcoat, 5; neck and pocket handkerchiefs, \$2 each; stockings, 2½; and shoes 4 and 5 dollars per pair (very inferior)? If a carpenter, he must pay for a hand-saw, 3½ dollars; a pit-saw, 10; his axe and adze, \$3 each; planes (smoothing) 2; first do., 2½; jointers, 5; chissels, 1 : 3; and files, from 12 cents to 2 dollars. Every description of mechanic's tools are in the like proportion. Ingenious artizans, on their arriving in this country, generally commence business upon their own account.

The price of wood, at Valparaiso, is very high. It is brought from the windward ports; there being very little in the vicinity of this place. A single board, 9 inches wide, by 12 feet long, costs 75 cents; and a *quartonos*, a piece of wood, 4 inches square, by 12 feet in length, 1 dollar; and as iron and bricks are also dear, and wages high, the building of a house costs a considerable sum.

The agent for Lloyd's, at Valparaiso, a Mr. Cood, was erecting, whilst I were there, a large house, next the sea-side. After the carpenters had commenced putting on the roof, the walls of the house, though 3 feet in thickness, gave way, and the bricks of which it was composed, were all broken. These bricks were baked in the sun. This accident was said to be owing to the badness of the mason's work, and there was not one foreign bricklayer in the place.

In like manner a British merchant, of the name of Bless,

had a large building, intended for a store-house, give way; and which was the means of his losing some hundred dollars.

It will be expected that I should say something of the Printing of this country. When I first arrived at Valparaiso, I applied to Mr. Hill, the American Consul, for information relative to my profession; he kindly offered me every assistance in his power. His chief clerk professed to be well acquainted with the affair, and told me, "that there was but one Printing-Office in Chili, which was at St. Jago, the capitol; that among the Spanish prisoners taken at the battle of Maipu, there were four or five printers, whom the government compelled to work for them for almost nothing; that there were four small newspapers printed weekly at this office; and that this, with a little government work, was all that was then done in the country." The time is fast approaching when the *freedom* of the press will extend this useful art to the remotest districts, and printing will continue to increase as the public mind becomes enlightened. A Chilian, by the name of Carrera, established the first Printing-Office in the country; and this so late as the commencement of the Revolution. According to Mr. Bland, "before that period, all books and papers prior to their entrance into the country, were inspected and approved by the Holy Inquisition at Lima." I did not go to Santiago, but learned that the information which I received relative to the Printing Business, was correct.

For upwards of three months after my arrival at Valparaiso, I worked at carpentering with my brother. We had a sufficiency of employment, but were sometimes unfortunate in not getting paid for it. From the instant that I found I could not get work at my own profession, my thoughts were ever intent upon returning to the United States. My pecuniary resources, at the expiration of three months, were by no means sufficient to pay the enormous passage-money required by the Captains of vessels bound to the United States, and the only alternative remaining, was to attach myself to a ship bound home. I had scarcely come to this determination, when, by accident, I met, at the American Consul's, Obadiah Coffin, the late commander of the whale-ship Improvement. He was in want of hands, and assuring me that he should be at Nantucket in 6 months from the time of my shipment, but which, by unforeseen events, ex-

tended to eighteen, I cheerfully joined his vessel at the 115th lay—or 1 barrel of oil in 115. On the same day that I shipped, we went to sea, steering for the coast of Peru; but presuming that a short description of the ports to windward and to leeward of Valparaiso (many of which I have seen), may be interesting, I will suspend the farther account of my voyage for the present.

The principal regret I experienced at leaving Valparaiso, was in the parting with Claretta Rosa, an amiable girl, and the eldest daughter of a fine old Chilian lady. To account for my acquaintance with this young person, it will be necessary to state, that on my first arrival here, a well-informed young man, with whom I became intimate, told me, that if I wished to learn the Spanish language cheaply and speedily, and spend many agreeable hours, he would advise me to seek out a respectable family where there were young females, take my English and Spanish Dictionary in my hand, and propose to learn the ladies English if they would take the trouble of teaching me Castilian. He recommended me to a family, and my offer was gladly and eagerly accepted by the respectable parents on behalf of their charming daughters. My brother and myself spent all our leisure time with these Chilians. They were truly obliging girls, and took every pains to render us acquainted with their tongue; in which, I believe, we made greater progress than they did in English. The evenings passed happily in this pleasant seminary; for, between our lessons, our female teachers would sing to us their native airs, accompanied by the guitar, they would dance, and regale us with exquisite fish, with fruit, and wine, and matte; then as the rod was banished, and the sour austerity of the *male* tutor lost in the tender persuasions, the mild manners, and winning behaviour of our mistresses, our improvement could not but be commensurate with their exertions. Whether our being constantly in the evening and generally on Sunday in each others' company; or that the little attentions and assiduities which we were in the habit of paying them, won upon them; or the reflection that we were separated by immense oceans from our parents, and from our homes—in a foreign country—and, young as we were, buffeting about in a tempestuous world, without one friend to buoy us up should we be sinking, or impart consolation and advice

should we stand in need of it, certain it is, they took a particular interest in our welfare and happiness.

Clareta, though short of stature, was finely formed; she possessed that winning softness of features which every one must admire, whist her eyes and her hair of jet black—the former sparkling and the latter glossy, contributed to render her extremely interesting. I had before apprised her of my intention of returning to the United States; and on the morning previous to my leaving Valparaiso, visiting her for the last time, I found she had been weeping. At parting, she grasped my hand, and, in her expressive language, said, “*Adios, Enriquez! Dios guarde vmd., Senor. Yo estimo vmd. muchisimo. Me presentaron muchos Ave Marias para vmd., y yo ruego viva cien anos!*” Which I presume would read literally, “Farewell, Henry! God guard you, Sir. I esteem you very much. I shall offer up many Ave Marias* for you, and I pray you may live for one hundred years!”

The conclusion of this speech may appear bombastic, but it must be remembered that the Chilians carry their politeness, in compliments, to as great an excess as any other people. When the inhabitants of Havana first heard that Ferdinand had signed the Constitution of the Cortez, they exclaimed, “May the Constitution, and the king who has signed it, live for 1,000 years!”

About ten miles to the northward of Valparaiso, on the sea-shore, stands a little place called *Villa de la Mer* (Village of the sea). It abounds in flocks of sheep and goats; and a great many mules are raised here. The kindness of the *Wassos* (farmers) here, at Limache, a town a few leagues distant, and in fact in every part of Chili that I have seen, is only equalled by that of the same class of men in North America. The facility with which they become acquainted with strangers, amazes the cautious European; for with an half-hour’s knowledge, they are as unreserved as if their acquaintance had been of fifty years standing. Many of the vices of long-civilized countries, have not as yet, I conceive, found a residence among these retired and peaceful cultivators of the earth. They are a distinct class to those Chilians who live in towns, and profess disgust at their evil habits, while their own native manners must command the

* The angel’s salutation to the Virgin Mary.

admiration of those who account hospitality, diffidence, and humanity, among the virtues.

St. Jago (pronounced Santiago), the metropolis and seat of government of Chili, distant 90 miles from Valparaiso, 7 from the Andes, and 1200 from Buenos Ayres, is a large and handsome city, and is said to contain 60,000 inhabitants. It has many splendid edifices; among which may be reckoned the mint, the coinage of which exceeds that of Potosi, or Lima, the cabildo, or town house, the cathedral, churches, convents and colleges. It is situated on the southern side of the noble river Mapocho. Each house forms a square, and many of them have a yard and garden attached. The streets are broad, run north and south, and the city is connected to the suburbs by a bridge, which crosses the Mapocho. The district of St. Jago is the most fertile in Chili. "In the same orchard, the orange can be seen in bud, in flower, green, and perfectly ripe, at the same time."

"By glancing at the map of South America, it will be perceived how effectually Chili is separated from the United provinces of La Plata, and from Peru. It is completely enclosed by the Andes, and probably differs in situation from any country in the universe." The Andes commence at the Straits of Magellan, opposing an impenetrable barrier to the entrance of hostile armies from the United Provinces, and traversing Peru, divide the Upper from the Lower: they finally subside at the Isthmus of Darien. Chili, to the North, is bounded by Peru; to the East, by the Andes; on the West, by the Pacific Ocean; and to the southward, by the land of Magellan. There are only ten passes across the Cordillera into Chili from the United Provinces, and these "are impassible except in summer, and are so narrow and dangerous, that a man on horseback can with difficulty cross them." Mules are the general conveyance.

Chili possesses advantages for defence superior to any country in South America. It is about 1100 miles in extent, and contains 378,000 square miles. "It has many excellent ports convenient for the foreign trade, and is a country fruitful in grain, wine and oil, and productive in gold, silver, copper, and tin. Its population is rising of 1,200,000 souls; 800,000 of which are under the dominion of the Patriots, the remainder being under the jurisdiction of the royalists. There are about 50,000 Indian slaves in all Chili, and but

very few slaves of the African race. All the mechanical arts and agriculture, are in a rude state. The principal exports are the metals above-mentioned, together with wheat, flour, hemp, cordage, hides, tallow, jerked beef, vicuna, guanaca, and chinchilla skins, figs, raisins, &c. The imports from the United States, are chiefly tobacco, Windsor chairs, saddles and furniture. There are 10,000 monks and nuns in the country; and the church holds one-third of the landed property of the state. Besides the share of the tythes, which the state still permits them to draw, the clergy have the *annats*, or first fruits; which yield to each curate between two and three hundred dollars per annum."

The southernmost Port of Chili, of any note, is that of **QUILAN**. It lies in 43 41 S. latitude, and is an inconsiderable place, inhabited principally by Indians.

Abreast of this port, is the **ARCHIPELAGO OF CHILOE**, consisting of 37 islands; the largest of which, called Chiloe, gives name to the Archipelago. This island is 180 miles in length, and 20 in its greatest breadth, and is, with many of the others, inhabited by Indians and old Spaniards. The former are reckoned the most ingenious native mechanics in the country. They excel in the making of all kinds of cabinet-work and musical instruments, and in the playing upon them. A choice variety of woods are found in their lofty forests, well adapted to house-work and ship-building. There are "97 species of trees in Chili, only 13 of which shed their leaves." Some of them grow to the height of 70 feet. The islands of Chiloe are still in the possession of the Royalists. The principal port is **CASTRO**, the capital of the Archipelago. It probably contains 3,000 inhabitants. This port has good anchorage, and is well defended from the winds.

Two degrees to leeward of Quilan, is found the Port of **SAN CARLOS**; containing perhaps about 3,000 residents, including the soldiery. This place has been bravely defended against two attacks from part of the Patriot squadron; in both of which, the Royalists were successful. Its forts are garrisoned with about 700 regular troops, and it is said they can assemble 500 Indians, in case of necessity. The soldiers, like those of the Patriot ports, will not scruple to rob, or even to take the life of a person. They are valiant but little subordination.

It being, throughout the year, much colder in these high latitudes than at Valparaiso and the lee-ports, the natives are proportionably fairer. The strength and stoutness of the men, and the rosy cheeks of the girls, would almost lead one to believe them a distinct people from those of the northern ports. San Carlos is 9° to the southward of Valparaiso. The anchorage is not very good, and vessels trading here, should be provided with at least one chain cable. Squalls of wind and rain are not unusual. The soil in the vicinity of the town is very fertile. Wheat is so abundant, that 6 cents will purchase as much bread as six men could reasonably eat in a day. The oxen, sheep, and pigs, are uncommonly cheap and fine. Beef, is $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per lb.; mutton, do.; and pork, but $1\frac{1}{4}$ do. Large and well-dried hams may be purchased at ninepence each. European vegetables thrive, especially potatoes; which are thought to be better than those of Ireland. There are more than *twenty* different varieties. The orchards teem with fruits, particularly apples; and the cider (the provincial term is *chichos*) that is here made, is accounted the best in Chili. They have also *mestilla* and *agua ardiente* too cheap for the good of society.

As a counterbalance to the cheapness of provisions, must be mentioned the high price of wearing apparel; of mechanics' tools; of arms and munitions of war; of salt; and in fact of all articles they have to import. In the summer of 1822, at San Carlos, an English brig sold her cargo, consisting of gunpowder and salt, the former at \$4 per lb., the latter at \$5 per 7 lbs. In this town, the price of a hat is \$10; a superfine coat, 50; shoes, 6; stockings, 3, &c. &c.

There are two churches in San Carlos, and religion is but a mask for the worst of crimes. It is not uncommon here, to see girls of 11 and 12 years of age at the *fandangos* houses, lost to all sense of modesty, and habituating themselves to cordials and to oaths. This is nearly all the blessed work of the priests, and Lucifer could not have found abler assistants on earth to forward his designs, than these same *padres*.

A few miles below San Carlos, is found the Port of QUEDAL; and 72 miles to leeward of it, Port DE LA GALERA. They are inconsiderable places, but possess good ground for anchorage. The shores from Galera to Cape Horn, abound with hair seal.

The next Port in order, and the *first* of consequence to windward, is VALDIVIA. The city of this name, stands on the banks of the river Valdivia, and is 9 miles from the sea. It is an ancient and handsome town, and is said to contain upwards of 13,000 inhabitants. There are several elegant churches in this place, as well as many private buildings. Valdivia is defended by 4 strong castles. It is 16° to leeward of Cape Horn, and 8° to windward of Valparaiso.

As at San Carlos, meats, vegetables, fish and fruits, are a complete drug. The butter and cheese of this province are not surpassed in Chili. Wheat (two crops yearly) is produced in such immense quantities, as not to be all consumed.

The country around Valdivia is extremely picturesque; it is thickly settled, and the white-washed cottages, peering from out the luxuriant fields, or half-enveloped in the orchards, present an agreeable appearance. The timber of this province grows to a great size and height; it is of many colours, and very durable. It is said that 600 boards; 20 ft. long, have been sawed out of a Red Cedar tree.* This wood is principally used in cieling and flooring the houses of the wealthy, and in the construction of musical instruments.

The furniture of the Valdivian dwellings, the superstition of the people; the villainy of the soldiery, the method of living and the cookery; are the exact counterpart of Valparaiso. Like it also, the state of morality here shows, in colours of fire, the little attention of parents and of priests to this all-important matter. The fandangos houses are numerous; and are always thronged in the evening; whilst Sunday is here devoted to all kinds of merriment and diversion. This state of things must certainly have a very injurious tendency upon the mind of the unwary foreigner. It is hardly to be expected that he will have fortitude to withstand such vicious example; and thus we see the greater part of those who arrive here, joining with avidity—no matter *when* the time, or *what* the occasion, in all the frivolity and vices of the Chilian.

A short time previous to my arrival at Valparaiso, Valdivia was taken from the Royalists. By which important capture, a large extent of territory was freed from kingly control, whilst this noble city, with a quantity of heavy artillery, the best in Chili, and a large treasure, were converted to the use of the patriots.

* See Molina's Chili.

The Port of TIRUA is the next in order. It is little more than a degree to windward of Valdivia, and is an inconsequential place; being inhabited principally by Indians.

In lat. 37° 18 S. and two miles from the sea side, stands the town of Arauco; celebrated as being the head quarters of the late piratical royalist general BENEVIDES! The landing is bad, as a heavy surf continually beats upon the shore. The road to the town is extremely rugged, and in one place somewhat impeded by a narrow river. As this place has been the scene of many bloody conflicts, it is in a very battered and ruinous situation. Its church is nearly razed, its riches pillaged, and its bell broken; whilst the falling walls, the demolished or decaying houses, and torn up streets, mark it as a place that "once was."

Arauco is surrounded by a wall of mud, on which 4 brass guns are mounted. Including soldiers, there are not more than 1600 inhabitants in the place. The citizens are courteous, but the military wretched thieves—the patriot officers even, not disdaining to peculate.

The fine soil that surrounds the town, the elegant orchards, and the numerous farm-houses and villages in the vicinity, are nearly all deserted; the woods being lined with hostile Indians, and war—all-devastating war, converts this beautiful region into a field of contention between natives of the same country, who ought to be living in brotherly amity and peace, or together making head against the common enemy—Spaniards! Whilst in France, during the Revolution, the Bastile enclosed its thousands, and the guillotine despatched them, the levity and frivolity of the Parisians heeded it not, and the theatres were thronged, and the games continued;—so, in Arauco, although surrounded by enemies, and knowing not when to expect an attack, or how soon to be slaughtered, the females drink, and dance, and run their petty race, and the men lounge, and eat, and sleep; believing that time best spent, which is past most pleasurably.

The country called Araucania, extends from the river Bio Bio (which separates it from Concepcion) to Valdivia. When the Spaniards first invaded Chili, Araucania was peopled by fierce, numerous and warlike Indians, having many famous chiefs, and possessing good laws. In several desperate conflicts they worsted the king's troops in the field, laid waste

their forts and cities (especially Concepcion), and were nearly successful in expelling them from all Chili. The Spaniards, in their official accounts, have stated, that they experienced greater trouble, and it cost them more bloodshed, in the ultimate conquest of these Indians, than in the capture of the rest of Chili, and of both Perus. Is it not singular that this people, who were the last men in Chili to acknowledge allegiance to the kings of Spain, should now be the only persons* who have not shook it off, and assumed independence?

The Araucanians, who principally reside in the woods and mountains, live in huts, which, though neatly built, possess no other convenience. As each family owns several horses, their capabilities for wandering through the country, to which they are much addicted, becomes comparatively easy. Like the North American Indians, they regard their females as an inferior creation, and evince more affection for their horses than they do for their wives. The women do the ploughing and planting, and all the drudgery of the family. They have also to attend to the horses, and armed, to go to the wars. These women are very prolific, and are capable of enduring excessive fatigue. The Araucanians, although very brave, cannot withstand a regular attack, but fly to their woods and fastnesses, where, in ambuscades and bush-fighting, they pick off many patriot soldiers.

The country which these Indians inhabit, abounds in metals; and it is said that the iron found here is not inferior to the best in Spain.

Forty miles to leeward of Arauco, stands the town of TALCAHUANO. Mariners in making this port from the northward, have a sure beacon in *Conception Paps*; two very remarkable hills, so called. Talcahuano stands at the head of a noble bay, said to be the safest and most commodious in Chili. The hills that surround it are covered with lofty forest trees. The town is not extensive, and the houses generally but of one story in height. They are mostly built of clay, and as their exteriors are whitewashed, present, at a distance, a neat appearance. The furniture of these, &c. &c. is precisely the same as at Valparaiso. The streets in-

* It ought to be observed that the Cunches and Huilliche Indians, who inhabit that region of Chili south of Valdivia, as well as the Puelches at the foot of the Andes abreast of Araucania, are not yet subdued; but the Araucanians are more to be dreaded than either of these tribes.

intersect each other at right angles. The church (there is but one), the calabozos, the custom-house, the fort, and the residence of the Governor, are the only buildings worthy of notice in the place. In front of the town, and close to the waters' edge, stands a handsome little fortification, mounting 8 guns; and at the south-western extremity, the ruins of another; the guns being all dismounted.

The greater part of the inhabitants of Talcahuano, are miserably poor, and have scarcely sufficient clothing to cover their nakedness. They subsist almost entirely upon fish. Roasted muscles, here called *cholos*, with other shell-fish, cooked or cooked, one may find at all times of the day at their houses. At Talcahuano, testaceous fish, especially muscles, are found in astonishing quantities; they cover the rocks, adhere to the kelp, or sea weed, and line the bottom of the bay. The method they take in catching these, is both simple and successful—it is by means of a long pole, with three prongs, and which is thrust down among them. Canoes are exclusively used in fishing, of which there are great numbers. I saw several that were at least 15 feet long, and from 2 to 5 feet wide, each of which had been hollowed out of the trunk of a single tree. These canoes have thwarts, and are rowed or paddled at pleasure. The women practise fishing as well as the men.

The country around Talcahuano is mountainous to the southward and westward, and to the eastward, a pampas, or grassy plain, separates it from Concepcion, the capital of the province. Much of the wood in the vicinity, is *letree*, or poisonous. There are mines of sea coal in the cliffs adjoining the town, but the natives prefer wood for firing.

The chastity of the females generally of Talcahuano, is at a very low ebb; their conversation is gross and ignorant, and their manners the most impudent and impertinent; yet they are courteous, and full of compliment.

In this place there are many pulquerias, and agua ardiente is vended at the greater part of the private houses—thus making them public ones. Here also the fandangos flourish. This dance, like the Italian *Bolera*, always immodest, is here intolerably so. I do not know what one of my virtuous countrywomen would do, without it were to fly them as quick as possible, were she to be at once ushered into a fandangos-house among the Chilian females, many of whom

are mere children, to see them partaking in, or deigning to be spectators of, this odious dance, smoking their small paper cigars (*cigarros*), and sipping *mestilla* or *agua ardiente*.

The skins of rats, and of a small animal called the *guanós*, serve the Chilians for tobacco-pouches. After being cured, they are handsomely painted with figures of men, of beasts, and of birds. They contain a little silver or horn tinder-box, with the flint and steel attached; the tobacco is already minced, and there are small slips of writing paper within for the making of cigars.

The greater part of the inhabitants of this country, of both sexes, smoke cigars. The tobacco they use is mild, and comes mostly from Lower Peru.

In many of the Chilian ports and inland towns, English and American subjects have domiciled. In Valparaiso, there are more than 20 foreigners keeping tavern; there are two at Coquimbo, and 3 at Talcahuano. They are, generally speaking, a knavish set of men, and are not backward in defrauding their countrymen; who, unsuspicious, frequent their houses in preference to the Chilian *pulquerías*, where their language is not spoken.

I have often, in the U. States, heard foreigners reviling their own countrymen, the keepers of boarding-houses and taverns, upon this same account, and recounting how much better they had been used at the houses of the natives. Presuming that it will not be considered irrelevant, I will here relate an anecdote respecting myself. Landing, some years since, at the city of Calais, in France, I accidentally met with old acquaintances of my father's in a Mr. Potts and his wife, then keeping an hotel in the said place. After they had harangued for some time upon the close intimacy that had ever existed between our connections, and how often they had partaken of the hospitality of my father's board; they concluded with inviting me to their house to board and to lodge; assuring me that it *should* be the cheapest, and *was* the best, place of accommodation in the town. I lived with them nearly a month, and, for friendship's sake I suppose, they charged me twenty francs per week—the common price, in French houses, being fourteen. Returning to Calais sometime afterwards, it is needless to add, that the “recollection of the former intimacy that had subsisted between our families,” only led me a league farther from Mr. Pott's house; and, at a Madame Vischer's, I met with superior politeness and accommodation

at the rate of 12 francs per week. I should conceive that it would be best for those foreigners landing in South America, to seek entertainment at the houses of the natives.

Of the three foreign tavern-keepers in Talcahuano, one is an Englishman, and the other two are from the U. States—from New Bedford, I believe. They are not only all married to native women, but have become, or pretend to be, Roman Catholics. The greater proportion of the foreign keepers of pulquerias in Valparaiso, once Protestants, have followed their notable example. Hymen's rites here, have worked a double change—these persons have become at once married men and Papists.

Talcahuano has been much famed for its noble defence against the royal army, commanded by General Sanchez, in conjunction with the troops of Benevides. The patriots were commanded by Don Ramon Freyre. In crossing the plains of Talcahuano with a Spaniard present at the engagement, he pointed out the various burial places of the royalistslain, the only memento of their wretched fate being a little cross of lath, carelessly stuck into the ground. Neither Sanchez or Osorio took any means to conciliate the people of this povince; and the possession of a handsome wife, or daughter, generally insured a domiciliary visit from these generals, or from their officers; while the flaming cottages, the ruined fields, villages deserted and cattle straying, seemed to show that might prevailed over right, and that this beautiful and once peaceful country, had become the scene of warfare;—of a war, than which, there never was one more sanguinary, not excepting the blood-stained fields of Venezuela; conducted, on the one part, to uphold an imbecile king and slavish despotism, and, on the other, to give an whole people freedom, and to conquer those rights and privileges to which they, in common with all the universe, are entitled—which rights and which privileges, they are at length in possession of.

During our stay at Talcahuano, I twice visited CONCEPTION; it is 9 miles distant, and there are two roads leading to it. The southern road is mountainous and somewhat dangerous, as frequent robberies, and even murders, are committed on it by soldiers and others. Conception is a magnificent place, and I presume the second in size in Chili. In 1822, its inhabitants were said to amount to 20,000 souls. This city is

very ancient, having been founded by the first conquerors to resist the ravages of the Araucanians; from whose country it is separated by the river Bio Bio. It has been more than once destroyed by these Indians, being very poorly calculated for defence. I should say that from north to south, Concepcion is probably four miles in length; its extreme width does not exceed two miles. The streets, intersecting each other at right angles, are wide, but without pavements. The houses, principally of two stories, are built of brick.

There are seven stupendous stone churches in Concepcion, which were, till lately, extremely rich; but these sanctuaries, always respected by the Spaniards and Revolutionists in their contests, were given up to the unrestrained pillage of the Indians, in the last attack of Benevides. There is a fine hospital in this place.

In the centre of the town is the *plaza grande*, or public square; on which, stands the Governor's house; the barracks; a huge pile of ruins (once a church, but destroyed by Benevides); and the market. The latter was abundantly stocked with meats and vegetables, and was so plentifully supplied with fruit, as to sell it cheaper than in any other part of Chili that I had seen. For a medios (6½ cents), we bought more grapes than a handkerchief would contain, with as many apples as we chose to carry away. The best of wine is but 5 cents a bottle, and cider, *agua ardiente* and *mestilla*, are equally reasonable.

I cannot perhaps convey a clearer idea of the cheapness of provisions in Concepcion, than by describing a dinner which myself and companions partook of whilst at this place. We had left word at a tavern in the market-place that we should return to dine at 3 o'clock; and our repast consisted of boiled fowl, stewed mutton, soup, baked bacon, do. beans, boiled cabbage and fish, with bread, cheese, butter, STEWED eggs, and 3 bottles of wine: the landlord's charge was but 16 cents each!

A propos—in the dressing of Eggs, how differently do the French, the Brazilian, Chilian, and Virginian manage it. *Monsieur* boils his eggs *hard*, and their exteriors are frequently stained of divers colours; a *Brazilian* will take them boiled *hard* also, and mince them in a dish with vinegar, mustard, pepper, salt, sweet oil, and wine of Oporto; whilst the *Chilian* breaks his in boiling water, adds thereto onion, butter, carrot, and Cayenne, and in a *soup* devours them; the

Virginian method of cooking Eggs it is probable the reader is acquainted with, and needs not to be mentioned.

In the province of Conception wheat is so plentiful, that one may purchase 6 loaves of bread for a quartelos (3 cents). To cleanse the wheat of chaff and dust, it is thrown, by shovels-full, in the air, when the wind takes off the unfit particles. Many of the wassos, for want of flour mills, pound their wheat in stone mortars. The sacks, in which they transport it from place to place, and indeed most things else, are made of hide, and hold an arroba, or 25 pounds.

A large proportion of this city is so completely embowered in orchards of peach and cherry trees, that, at a distance, the houses are scarcely perceptible. Orange and lemon trees are common in the gardens, but the fruit is much smaller and not so luscious, as in the more sultry climate of Peru. Mulberry and White Cinnamon trees grow here.

The principal street in Conception is almost wholly taken up with stores, for the most part occupied by tailors, shoemakers or silversmiths. In the shop of a tailor, that I entered, they asked 5 dollars for a white jean waistcoat, and 50 dollars for a superfine blue coat. At a shoemaker's, \$4 for a pair of shoes; the leather but half tanned, and the workmanship very indifferent. At the silversmiths', gold and silver trinkets, all unhandsome patterns, were as cheap as similar articles in the United States. There are rich mines of gold in the vicinity of Conception, but from want of machinery for clearing the water, many of the most valuable have been abandoned. Mining is an unhealthy and dangerous business, and the wages of the workmen very precarious; they are generally rewarded according to the quantity of mineral collected. Quarries of Porphyry are found near the city.

There were 600 soldiers in Conception at the time I visited it, and some few days previous, 400 men had been despatched to garrison the town of Arauco, then lately captured. The soldiers of Conception, on perceiving strangers in the town, voluntarily make a tender of their services to shew the place; this happened to me and my companions. We had great trouble to shake these fellows off, and were not able to do so until we had plentifully supplied them with wine and with cigars. The military band consisted of but two or three small drums, and as many fifes.

I had the pleasure of seeing the head of the noted pirate *Bencvides*, at this city. It was secured on the top of a high pole, was looking towards Araucania (the scene of his numerous cruelties, and the present abiding-place of his marauders), and presented a most ghastly appearance. A small body of soldiers are found necessary to guard it, as the Indians have twice endeavoured to possess themselves of it.

Sometime previous to his death, unexpectedly, and in the dead of night, he attacked and made himself master of Concepcion. The inhabitants massacred, churches pillaged, houses demolished, and females ravished, were the fruits of his short sojourn. He destroyed nearly *one half* of this rich, populous, and ancient city, and returned to his woods by a road, 6 or 7 feet wide, and now called by his name, which he cut up a steep and almost inaccessible mountain; and, for which exploit, he obtained the very honorable appellation of *El Diablo Inferno!* The Infernal Devil.

At Concepcion I became acquainted with one of the Governor's* aid-de-camps. He was from Liverpool, England, and appeared to be well-informed in Chilian affairs. By him I was introduced to a Mr. C****, a British merchant, an English carpenter, and an Irish sawyer; and these, with a Connecticut youth belonging to the sealing brig *Hersilia*, a Frenchman, cook to the governor, and an Irish colonel in the Chilian pay, were, I presume, the only foreigners at this time resident at Concepcion. The carpenter complained much of the want of foreign mechanics at the city, of his own profession particularly, as well as blacksmiths. Although he had amassed considerable money, having been in Concepcion some years, he told me that he was not happy, and that he longed unceasingly to return to his friends and to his native country. The Irish sawyer spoke somewhat differently. He was a free and ingenuous fellow, and declared himself as perfectly satisfied with the *agua ardiente* of Chili, as the *whiskey* of Old Ireland; that, although he had cast away the shillelah, he still retained the remembrance of the shamrock; and, possessing an Hibernian's heart, he would drink to the downfall of tyranny and *Eringo bragh* (Ireland for ever), as long as he lived; and, that in death, he believed he should sleep as securely in the vale of Concepcion, as under the green sward of *Cashel*.

* This Governor was the defender of Talcahuano, and is now Supreme Director of Chili. He is middle aged, and possesses considerable talent.

He had but one regret, and that he considered an *important* one, viz:—"the *difference in dancing* at Conception and Belfast!"

The inhabitants of Conception are hospitable, have no pride, and are fond of strangers. This city abounds in prostitutes, fandangos and priests; the former are very abandoned, and the latter are the occasion of it. A handsome guitar might be bought here for fifty cents, and a violin for \$1: the strings were of sheep's gut. Almost every description of foreign mechanics, would meet with employment at Conception, and the wages are generally three dollars per day, payable every night. Carpenters, millwrights, coopers, painters, blacksmiths, hatters, tailors, shoemakers, tinmen, masons, and bakers, are most required; and, I would venture to assert, that should persons understanding either of these trades double Cape Horn, they would find employment at any port of note on the coasts of Chili or Peru.

Talcahuano is but four degrees to windward of Valparaiso. Between it and the latter there are five ports, viz: ASTILLERO, NAVIDAD, TOPOLCAMA, MOULLE, and ST. ANTONIO. They are but little frequented.

Having brought the reader back again to Valparaiso, I will now, if he pleases, conduct him to the lee ports of Chili.

The first port to leeward of Valparaiso, is QUINTERO; below which, HERRADURA and PAPUDO present themselves. They are places of no trade.

The BAY OF TONGOY is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ degrees below Valparaiso. It is greatly resorted to in the months of June, July, and August, by whaleships, in pursuit of *Right Whales*. This bay is large, and although the water is deep at the anchorage, yet, at times, it is so clear that the anchor may be plainly discerned on the bottom. The shipping lie about 200 yards from the shore. The country around is very mountainous; yet, in the back ground, the magnificent Andes tower above all. At the foot of the hills around the margin of the bay, are three small towns, called Tongoy, Razos, and Tongo. Numerous flocks and herds graze upon the herbage of the mountains, which are entirely destitute of wood. The shores of the bay are covered with right-whale carcases, emitting a putrid effluvia, and affording sustenance to hundreds of wild dogs and turkey buzzards. On a lofty hill, to the westward of the anchorage, the whalers' have

established a look-out house; and, during the season, a man is stationed there daily. When he descries a whale, he hoists a flag, and the boats immediately put off from the ships in pursuit. On Sundays, at the foot of this hill, a sort of fair is held; the country people assembling to sell their spirits, meats, and vegetables to the shipping.

Thirty miles to leeward of Tongoy, stands the city of Coquimbo; which is 100 miles distant from St. Jago, and about 200 from Valparaiso. The town (probably the most pleasant in Chili) is situated at the foot of a lofty range of hills, and about 2 miles from the sea. It is impossible for vessels to anchor opposite the city, or for boats to land; as the bay, here, is completely exposed to northerly winds, and a heavy surf continually beats upon the shore; but they find a secure haven at the bay's southern extremity—a range of hills that jut far out to sea, affording a safe and commodious harbour. The water here is so bold, that vessels frequently anchor within a stone's throw of the shore, and are sometimes moored to the rocks.

In front of the landing-place at the Port of Coquimbo, stands a small fort, mounting 4 pieces of cannon; and, among the rocks at the entrance of the bay, on commanding positions, a few more are mounted. The garrison of the fort consisted of about 100 soldiers. Their dress was of white cotton, and their pay but 12 cents per day.

The houses here, or more properly, the huts, are wretched buildings indeed; they are neither proof against wind or rain: I presume their number does not exceed 150. Their roofs are covered with flags, and pieces of plank are laid upon these to prevent them from being blown away: the sides of the houses are thatched with the same materials. In the furniture,—if a couple of ox-hide chests (which serve the quadruple purpose of cupboard, wardrobe, chair and table), a small looking-glass, a wooden crucifix, a mat to squat, or repose upon, with a gourd, or drinking utensil, can be so called,—these huts differ but little from each other. The inhabitants of the Port, have a method of nailing ox-hide on their doors; as, also, in time of rain, of spreading hides over the roofs of their houses. The dress of both men and women here, is extremely wretched. The inhabitants are principally Indians, and obtain a scanty subsistence by fishing.

The Chilians at this place, at Coquimbo, and in fact

in most parts of Chili, are much in want of glass bottles, kegs, barrels and casks. As a substitute for bottles, they make use of bladders and the skins of animals; such as the sheep, goat, &c. I have actually known the Coquimbians to offer, on board our ship, 12 and even 16 cents for glass bottles; \$3 dollars for a small wooden keg, and \$20 for a 5-barrel cask. The Chilians hitherto have transported, by shipping, their wine and *agua ardiente*, in *jars of earthenware*, from port to port. These jars are of different sizes, and contain from 40 to 100 gallons; they make inconvenient stowage, and in rugged weather, are very liable to be broken.

The city of Coquimbo or Serena, is 9 miles from the port. Three sides of it are walled in. It is, on the sea side, protected by an impassible swamp, and to the eastward, by a wide and deep valley, through which winds a rapid stream, called the Coquimbo. The streets are narrow, but are well-paved, and cross each other at right-angles. I never saw a town that had a more plentiful supply of excellent water. The upper part of the city, called the Santos Lucci, is inhabited principally by Indians; and the view from this elevation, of the lower part of the town, of the port, the sea, and the surrounding country, is very fine.

There are 7 churches in Coquimbo, very superbly constructed; their interiors are enriched with a profusion of gold and silver candlesticks and crucifixes, with images of saints, and paintings. The priests go well clad; and faring sumptuously, with but little employment, they are mostly a fat, lazy race.

There is a college of some literary eminence in this city, containing more than 100 students: theology and the exact sciences are taught here. It is an extensive building, and is pleasantly situated near the south entrance of the city.

The houses of the wealthy (and there are many, in consequence of the mines of gold and copper in the vicinity), are the best buildings of the kind I ever saw in the country. They are seldom more than 2 stories in height, have each a yard attached, and retain the old Moorish custom of iron gratings in front of the windows; which are covered with a profusion of gilt. The work of these buildings would rather indicate them intended for places of defence, than as the residences of private gentlemen; the walls are from 3 to 4 feet in thickness, and the wood-work proportionate.

Although many of them are elegantly furnished, it is not after the American manner.

Vermin abound in the dusty floors of the houses of the lower classes; especially fleas, and others not to be named in good housewifery, but which are often found near the peat fires in the bog huts of Old Ireland.

At Coquimbo, as in the rest of Chili, all kinds of European commodities are extremely dear; but the silks and cottons of the East, from the frequency of Indiamen visiting the port, are not only cheap, but fashionable.

There are many handsome girls at the city; but the manners of the most affluent are contaminated, and the resolutions of the commonality of so flimsy a nature, that they will vanish at the presentation of a ribband.

Beef, mutton, fowls, vegetables, cheese, butter, milk, and eggs abound here, and are sold at reasonable prices. They have a method of cutting the beef into small slices, salting, and drying it in the sun; it is then called *jerke*, and vast quantities of it are transported to Peru, where it is held in high esteem. The cheese of this province is white, and very indifferent, nor can much be said in praise of the butter. Eggs are 16 for ninepence; and the milk would be very savoury, was it not vended in such filthy skins.

The wages of a mechanic in Coquimbo are \$3 per day.

A carpenter, a Bostonian, who, about four years since, deserted from a ship here—his whole property, at the time, the clothes that covered him, is married, and carrying on an extensive business at Coquimbo. The elegant house he resides in, is his own; and at the back of it, in a large yard, he carries on carpentering, turning, the business of a wheelwright, blacksmith, carver and cooper. He is an ingenious man, and in a fair way to realize a rapid fortune.

The inhabitants of this town make a complete holiday of the sabbath; they play at cards, dance, sing, and visit the *comedios*. The latter is a place of entertainment in which the audience are amused, by a single person, in the recital of ludicrous scenes and speeches, accompanied by appropriate gesture. The price of admittance 25 cents.

At the schools of Coquimbo, the students have to recite patriotic speeches, as well as extempore poetry and proverbs; and as these performances are often witnessed by the citizens, they excite to emulation.

I had pointed out to me, whilst at Coquimbo, several *old Spaniards* who were unfriendly to the existing order of things; they were said to amount to 500, and were under a kind of military surveillance. They plainly shewed, by their morose looks and slovenly appearance, that the reign of their Beloved Ferdinand had ceased to exist here—that the road to Fortune was no longer by the oppression of Chilians, but that the fickle Goddess was only to be won by the exertion of their individual abilities.

The country around Coquimbo is destitute of wood, and the mountains with which it is encompassed, are completely sterile as to shrubs, flowers, or herbage, but abound in the copper mineral; great quantities of which are exported to the U. States, and to the Indies. The copper is cast at the mines into pigs of 1 cwt. and upwards, and thus, one on each side of a mule, it is conveyed to the Port for embarkation. The copper mines are 9 miles from the city. In Coquimbo there are three manufactories for working the copper into sheets, and for the construction of household utensils of this metal: the manufacture of the latter was very indifferent. At their forges they made use of circular bellows, of curious construction: their fires were of charcoal.

The only trees that I saw at Coquimbo, were of the fruit kind. There are cocoa-nut trees (the fruit is not larger than an English walnut), lemon, orange, lime, fig, apple and peach trees. Figs here are more plentiful and cheap than in any other part of Chili—they are but 5 dollars per sack; walnuts and almonds, 3 do.; peaches, 1 shilling per bushel; apples, sixpence do.; and grapes, at the rate of 20 bunches for 6 cents. The Chilians preserve many of their fruits, and dried apples and peaches, or butter made from either, is very common. The inhabitants are adepts in the making of pastry of various kinds, which they call *dulces*.

In the province of Coquimbo there are quarries of marble, of many colours. Precious stones are also found, among which are agates, emeralds, amethysts, rubies and sapphires. Alabaster, rock chrystal and quartz abound in this district.

As I before said, the harp, guitar and violin, are the principal musical instruments of Chili. Persons of both sexes, and of every class, finger the guitar with great taste, and accompany the instrument with their voice. Their tunes are principally soft and plaintive: and as their singing is accom-

panied by appropriate action, it is extremely interesting. The soul enlivening music of our bands, would but ill suit the amorous Chilian; and when the musicians of the Franklin went on shore at Valparaiso with the marines, to exercise, the inhabitants manifested but little curiosity. Although the subject of the Chilian songs generally relate to love, yet they have many of the patriotic kind, which breathe a fervour scarcely to be surpassed. The verse subjoined, belongs to one of their most admired songs; it was composed by a lawyer at Buenos Ayres, by the name of Lopez. It is universally sung in the towns and villages of Chili; and, as at the former city, "it is taught in schools as an essential part of the education of youth."

CANTO I.

Oid, mortales el grito sagrado,
 Libertad. libertad, libertad;
 Oid, el ruido de rotas cadenas
 Ved en trono, a la noble igualdad;
 Se levanta en la faz de la tierra,
 Una nueva gloriosa nacion,
 Coronados de su siende laureles,
 Y a su plantas, rendido un lion.

CORO.

Sean eternos los laureles,
 Que supimas conseguir,
 Coronados de gloria vivamos,
 O juremos, con gloria morir.

TRANSLATION.

Hear, O mortals! the sacred shouts
 Of liberty, liberty, liberty;
 Hear the sound of broken chains,
 Behold equality enthroned;
 Behold in the face of day arising,
 A new and glorious nation,
 Her brows are crowned with laurel,
 A vanquish'd lion at her feet.

CHORUS.

Be eternal the laurels
 We have dared to win;
 Crown'd with glory let us live,
 Or, with glory, swear to die.*

"The air is somewhat slow, yet bold and expressive;" and when issuing from the lips of a beautiful woman, one forgets the difference in language, of country, though not of cause; he feels, in an instant, the sympathetic glow, and his heart beats in unison with her patriotism.

Before leaving this place, I must not omit mentioning the *Lavaderos* of ANDACOLL; they are distant from Coquimbo about 40 miles. The town of Andacoll stands in a handsome valley. The greatest scarcity which is felt here, is that of water; and much more of the precious mineral might be obtained, was there a sufficient supply of this necessary article. The churches of Andacoll are the richest in Chili; yet, although strongly built, but little can be said in favor of the beauty of the architecture. There is in one of these.

* See Mr. Brackenridge's "South America."

an image, representing a female, and called *La Senora ilustrisima de Andacoll*—The illustrious Lady of Andacoll. She is celebrated throughout Chili, and is said to be encased in virgin gold, and covered with an exuberance of precious stones. The tradition respecting this personage, and who may be called the “Presiding Deity” of Andacoll (as even the Virgin Mary herself is eclipsed), is curious, and worthy these superstitious people. It is asserted that, “in olden time,” some Indians digging in the spot on which the church now stands, struck upon this image. Although but 3 feet in height, it was found “too weighty” to be conveyed any distance, and as this was considered ominous, it was determined to let the lady remain where found, and to erect a splendid sanctuary over her. Every day adds to her riches, as the superstition of all classes leads them to be continually sending their voluntary contributions to decorate *La Senora ilustrisima de Andacoll*. The Chilians I believe have no certain criteria to determine how, or when, or by whom, this lady came to be deposited here; but it is *notorious*, that neither Esculapius or Dr. Rush understood the healing art so perfectly, or had so many votaries, as does this illustrious lady; and the lame, the halt, the dumb, and the blind, are convinced they will find a perfect cure in a visit to Andacoll; nor do the wealthy or the indigent, living within many miles of this place, expect a blessing upon their endeavours, without once in their life-time, at least, “ganging awa’ tull the kirk o’ Andacoll,” as a Scotchman used to express it. This is the Mecca and the Juggernaut of Northern Chili; and at the annual feast, hundreds of the inhabitants of Coquimbo journey hither, and are here met by persons from every part of the country.

The *Lavaderos* are places producing an earth from which a considerable quantity of gold is extracted by agitating it in water. It is said that “the ground at Andacoll is *creative*; as, though the lavaderos have been worked 30 years, they produce mineral in as great quantities as ever.” The poor inhabitants of Coquimbo, after a heavy rain, frequently go to Andacoll, for a few days, in search of gold.

We will now take leave of Coquimbo, renowned throughout Chili, for the respectability, opulence, politeness and generosity of its inhabitants, and bending our course still to leeward, the first port that presents itself to our view, will be

that of Huasco. It is a place of but little trade, and the only thing that invites shipping into its spacious bay, is the cheapness and goodness of the copper with which its hills abound. It also furnishes fruits, and some fire-wood for the southern Chilian ports. I believe the inhabitants do not amount to 3000. Huasco is situated one degree below Coquimbo, and has a very mountainous road to the latter place, which has been ridden on horseback, in two days.

The Port of Copiapo is $1\frac{1}{2}$ degrees to leeward of Huasco. Copiapo is pleasantly situated on a river, and probably contains 5000 inhabitants. Fruits, especially the fig, are produced in great quantities here.

Turquoises, load-stone and lapis lazuli are found in the environs of this city: the latter the inhabitants esteem as of no value. "Forty leagues south-east of Copiapo, sulphur is procured (in veins about 2 ft. wide), in a state so pure, as to require no refining." The country around the town is mountainous; the vallies are very fertile. There is a good road across the Andes from Copiapo to the town of RIOJA, in the United Provinces of La Plata.

This province abounds in mines of iron, tin, lead, copper and silver. Several elegant dyes, especially browns and blues, are extracted from the shrubs and plants of this district; and, it is said, the colors will last as long as the material.

Port NEGRA, the most northerly I conceive in Chili, something less than a degree to leeward of Copiapo, is a place of minor importance, and has no trade.

With this place, I finish the description of the Chilian Ports. It is presumed that, with the exception of a few in the high southern latitudes between Valdivia and Cape Horn, which, if inhabited at all, are peopled by the Huilliche Indians, and are of but little importance, they have all been mentioned. The 4 grand ports of Chili, are those of Valdivia, Talcahuano, Valparaiso and Coquimbo. The coast of Chili is in general stormy, and the shore rocky. Of the rivers that water this country, "123 take their source in the Andes; 52 of which communicate directly with the sea. Several of these rivers are navigable for ships of the line." In the north of Chili, it rains but seldom; but when it does, it descends in torrents. Refreshing dews falling in the night upon the plains, with dense fogs, which are dispersed by the morning sun, serve all the purposes of rain. The Spanish

language is spoken in Chili; it is learned and melodious, and I presume easy of attainment. The Religion is Roman Catholic. Four native animals are found, in great quantities, on the Chilian Cordillera; they are called the Lama, Alpaca, Guanaco and Vicuña. The first is used as an animal of burden, and its flesh is said to be equal to mutton, whilst the three last afford the most valuable woods.

We will now return to Valparaíso, and to my joining the Whaleship Improvement. As I have before said, we went to sea on the day that I shipped, and were bound to the coast of Peru—a noted coast for Sperm. Whales. It is common, at sea, for two whale ships to consort in the taking of whales, and the Improvement was, at this time, mated with the Parnasso, of New Bedford. Two days after leaving Valparaíso, we stood into the Bay of Tongoy (before-mentioned), to send letters to the U. States by the whaling vessels lying there, some of which were bound home. Leaving Tongoy, we cruised, well-in with the coast, frequently within sight of the shore, down to lat. 19° S., lying-to each night. We were 15 days in reaching this latitude from Tongoy, and were now nearly abreast of the Peruvian city of ARICA; which port we intended entering for the purpose of obtaining a recruit of wood and water. In the 16th degree of South latitude, the Andes are said to be loftier than in any other part of the Range; in sailing by them in this parallel, they appeared, like fabled Atlas, to support the skies. We entered the harbour of Arica on the 31st of July, 1821.

Previous to giving an account of this place, a few remarks respecting the situation of Lower Peru as it regards Chili, will not, it is presumed, be deemed unimportant.

PERU.

The inhabitants of this beautiful country, conquered by the ferocious Pizarro, and kept, until very lately, in

subjection by the most bloody despotism, have at length burst their shackles, and attained freedom—a freedom greater than that which they ever enjoyed under the happiest reigns of their Yncas. Liberty, like an overwhelming torrent, carries all before it, and the hellish cruelties of the demoniac Serna, and his counterparts Goyneche and Cante-rac, so far from repressing, added fresh fuel to the blaze of Peruvian patriotism, and impelled, with reviving strength and rapidity its current. The patriot flag will ere long float from the walls of ancient Quito to the sea-washed Arica, and the shattered remnant of the army of Ferdinand that still remains, must bow their stubborn necks to the march of the Columbian Bolivar, or drench with their life's blood the ensanguined vales of Potosi!

Peru is divided into two parts, the Upper and the Lower. Power Peru is that tract of country lying between the Western Andes and the Pacific Ocean, and extending from the Desart of Atacama, in 22° S. latitude, to Panama, 9° northward of the Line. This country is far more sultry than Chili (the sun striking it 2½ degrees to the northward of Guayaquil), and it is by no means so agreeable a residence, or so healthy. Nature, in separating Peru from Chili by the Desart of Atacama, has placed an impassible barrier between these countries; this desart being upwards of 13 days journey for a mule, and, like the arid sands of Arabia, producing neither fuel, herbage, shrubs or water; rendering it impervious to the march of an army. It is true that in the early conquest of Chili, an army was despatched from Lima, of some hundred men, by this route; but it was a case of great emergency, and the trouble and expence of conveying both food and water for the men and animals, exceeded the transportation of ten such armies by the natural route, viz: by sea, to Valparaiso; not taking into the account the number of men, who by sickness or fatigue, became victims to this wearisome journey.

ARICA is the first southern port of importance in Lower Peru, and it was at this place that I first set my foot ashore in this country. It is a sea-port town, and stands at the entrance of a valley, which stretches far into the interior. Being completely enclosed to the north and south by mountains, it is fronted by the sea, and at the back of it, is the valley I have spoken of, which is bounded by the lofty An-

des, making other mountains appear like molehills. On a hill south of the town, stands the Observatory; from which vessels are descried at a great distance in clear weather. The pathway to the hill-top is of such difficult ascent, that it excites one's amazement to know that the soldiers climb it. The anchorage at Arica is not very good. The shore is covered with innumerable small rocks; and as the water is shallow, with considerable surf, for 100 yards before you land, with only one small place cleared away for the passage of a boat, the greatest care is required to prevent the staving of it.

At the time of our visit, the town was in the possession of the Royalists; and the flag of Spain was flying at the fort, and at the house of the Governor. The fort, if it could be so called, mounted one crazy 32-pounder, and contained about an acre of ground, surrounded by a mud wall, about 6 feet in height, and 2 in thickness; which, in many places was falling to ruin. A troop of wooden-legged soldiers might have scaled its battlements, or a parcel of old women have carried it by storm. This fortification had neither draw-bridge, portcullis, curtain, or fosse, and appeared to be calculated much better for the confinement of strayed sheep and oxen, than for a military depot—a fortress to defend such an important place as Arica. It was garrisoned by 102 wretched looking soldiers, living in a place they called “a barrack,” but which, in reality, was no more or less than a thatched stable. These soldiers were a dark, savage looking set of men, and their lowering and suspicious looks, and unfriendly behaviour, presented the most striking contrast to their brethren of Chili; who, with all their vices, were free and courteous. Nor are these Spanish soldiers behind their brethren of Chili in all acts of robbery and villainy; and are said to be by no means so brave. Their dresses were very unsoldier-like. Their jackets and trowsers were of nankeen, they were without shoes or stockings, and on their heads they wore large blue caps, similar to those of a British dragoon, affixed to which was a brass plate, with the words *El Rey* (the king) engraved thereon. Their muskets were from the Tower of London, and were very bright.

After our ship had come to anchor, the captain went on shore, and took me with him (although very incompetent) as interpreter, to state to the Governor the object of our visit

to the port, viz: to procure a recruit of fresh provisions and of water. The Governor's house stood in a large yard, in the centre of the town, with some fig trees before it. The house was of one story, and was very indifferently furnished. The Governor was at "death's door." He appeared to be an elderly man, perhaps 60 years of age; whilst his wife, who was nearly white, looked like a young buxom damsel of 17; and had a small infant, her only child, in her arms. Her face did not wear the semblance of sorrow, and I thought I could divine that she grieved no more at the thoughts of losing that remnant of mortality, her husband, than at parting with any other burden. In the same room with the Governor, there were several officers in splendid uniform, whom I instantly recognized to be old Spaniards, by the curling mustachio, and their haughtiness.

The houses, churches and barracks of Arica, are white-washed within and without. The former are of but 1-story; and the roof, the sides, and the door, are frequently thatched with bull-rushes. The uprights, rafters, &c. are of bamboo, and not thicker than a man's wrist. Small yards adjoin each person's residence, fenced with the same materials; which fences are often 15 feet in height. The houses of the lower classes appeared to be destitute of many conveniences; neither chairs, tables, or chests were to be seen. The beds in these were mostly composed of bull-rushes: their cooking utensils were of earthenware. The churches, four in number, form a striking contrast to the houses. Their architecture is solid and stupendous, but I could not get a view of the interior.

To the northward of the town, and about two miles distant, stands the burial place of Arica. The wall that surrounds this consecrated spot, is of brick, 7 feet in height. It has a handsome portal or gateway, much loftier than the surrounding wall, which is decorated with appropriate painted emblems of mortality; as the hour glass, Time and his scythe, &c; and contains upwards of 3 acres of ground. Necessity probably compelled the Aricans to fix their cemetery so far from the town.

I supposed that I had seen money pretty plentiful in some of the Chilian ports, but I never saw it so immensely abundant as in Arica. Persons whose clothing was ragged, the soldiers and boys, nay every one, appeared to have milled

dollars in plenty. This is perhaps owing to their vicinage to the mines of Potosi, distant 300 miles, and to which city mules are continually travelling with the smuggled produce, landed at Arica, for the markets of Potosi.

This port, and many below it, has been greatly resorted to by smuggling vessels. These ships coming to anchor in the small bays on this coast, or standing off-and-on in-shore, the Peruvian purchasers, of both sexes, board them for the purpose of examining their articles. The ship now presents a curious spectacle—her rigging being lined with broadcloths, gown-pieces, cottons, linens, &c. whilst her decks are covered with hats, hardware, powder and ball, cutlery, in short every thing proper for the Peruvian market. Each sailor becomes a vender, and the strictest honesty is maintained by both parties. There was hardly an instance known in which any thing was purloined from the ship, and those goods paid for on board, are most scrupulously forwarded to their respective owners.

The coins of Peru, like those of Chili, are the dollar, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ do., the real, medios, and quartelos : these are all of silver. Of gold, there are doubloons (onzos), $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ do. There is no copper coin in the country.

With the exception of sugar, every thing is dear at Arica. Two needles will cost a quartelos (3 cents), as well as 5 pins; a yard of cotton is worth 4 shillings; a pair of cotton stockings, $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars; shoes, 5 do.; and a cotton handkerchief, 8 shillings. I saw no person at Arica wearing a broadcloth coat or trowsers; white and yellow cotton are substituted.

In Peru nothing amazes the traveller more than the marked difference in character between the Chilian females and these. The chastity of Peruvian women, in itself, ought not to excite our surprise; but after a residence for some time among the Chilians, where the prostitution of manners is so far from being considered infamous, that it is made a subject of merriment, one is amazed to see the contrast between adjoining countries. The females of Arica, though very dark-complexioned, are generally well made; one, I particularly remarked, who was so elegantly proportioned, that Phidias might have taken her for a model; and she (herself a child apparently) was mother of a fine boy, 9 years of age. Girls arrive at the age of puberty here, almost as

early as those of India; I was told that many of the Arican ladies became mothers at 13 and 14 years of age. They are extremely fond of gold and silver ear-rings and other ornaments, but dress indifferently.

To a stranger, the towns and villages of Peru, as in Chili, would appear deserted in the afternoon. The inhabitants are then taking their siesta, or afternoon's sleep; which, commences at 2 o'clock, and the people are seldom found stirring till six. This lazy custom is universal throughout South America; "during which time the hum and bustle of the streets cease, the houses and shops are closed, and all business suspended."

The fruits of Arica are principally figs, oranges and limes. A small red potatoe grows here which will keep good at sea for several months. Carpenters, millwrights and blacksmiths were much required I understood at the city of Potosi; and, at Arica, the first-mentioned of these might command \$4 per day. One small launch composed the whole of the Arican fleet. The Captain of the Port, Generals, and other officers, when they visited our ship, were compelled to come off in balzos, or canoes.

We had lain at Arica 8 days, when, with our consort, we put to sea. On the 20th of August, 1821, twelve days after leaving this port, early in the morning, the American ensign was seen flying at the main-top-gallant-mast head of our consort—the signal that whales were in sight. They were soon after discerned from our ship. Our boats were now lowered away, and after a short pull, struck an 80-barrel whale, which was quickly killed; and before the ensuing night, we had obtained 100 barrels of oil to each ship. From this time we cruised without success till the 8th of September, when we went into Santos, in Peru, for firewood.

As in Chili, previous to the revolution, so in Peru, printing was at a very low ebb. And the reason is obvious—the press tended to instruct and enlighten; and as Ferdinand wished those people over whom he reigned to be kept in the grossest ignorance, (as he expressed when he declared "That knowledge was not fit for colonies!") he exerted all his power to prevent the extension of this beautiful art, and during the whole time that his councils governed in Peru, there was only one small weekly newspaper printed at Lima for the whole of this extensive country, and even this

was under the censorship of a Junta. Ferdinand's bigotted and tyrannic rule here would have been abolished long before it was, had that best of all liberties—the *liberty of the press*, been permitted in Peru. It has been asserted, that the printed proclamations and manifestoes which Lord Cochrane caused to be distributed throughout Lower Peru, contributed more to the cause of Peruvian emancipation, than the Chilian armies. There is but one Printing-Office yet established in Low Peru, which is at Lima.

The *Bay of Santos* is commodious, and the water so shoal, that although we anchored upwards of a mile from the shore, we got but three fathoms. The town of Santos is 4 miles distant from the anchorage, and is completely enveloped in trees. There is but one church in the place; it was partly destroyed, and had been pillaged of its riches sometime previous, by that modern Caligula—general Goyneche. The burial-ground attached to this church was extensive, and would seem to show that deaths were not frequent here. I presume that the town of Santos did not contain more than 4,000 inhabitants. The houses were built of clay, and had their exteriors whitewashed; they were principally of 1-story. The courtesy, humanity and generosity of the inhabitants to strangers, could scarcely be exceeded. The females of Santos are very prolific; they bear children as early as 13 years of age, and their fecundity ceases when they reach 30. I saw in one of the houses here, a mother, who nursed her own infant, had been married 12 months, and yet (she told me herself) was not 14 years of age. The toes of this little infant were almost ruined by the insertion of the venomous jigger. Many of the inhabitants of Santos go barefoot; and their feet gave evidence that this destructive insect was as common here as at Rio Janeiro or New-Orleans.

An infant's cradle at this place, consisted of a piece of ox-hide merely, and was slung, like a hammock, athwart the corner of the apartment. The bed-clothes were of sheep-skins, and a cord attached to the hide gave the mother an opportunity of rocking it at pleasure from any part of the room. The method of washing clothes, was to pound them with a stick in a tub of water; and in ironing them, the *horn* of an animal, called the Vicuna, is made use of, which is rubbed over them.

The shoes that are made here are 2\$ a pair, and will scarcely last a week. Ammunition and guns were in much request. It would hardly be credited that an insignificant town like this, without a single fort or cannon, in want of ammunition, having no regular soldiers, or experienced commanders, and withal nearly destitute of muskets, should have not only withstood, but have *successfully* contended against the royal army, 1200 strong, led on by General Goyneche. But what will not the invincible fervour of patriotism effect? The very women—the youngest boys, joined in repelling the cruel enemy! Twice did the royalists succeed in obtaining a lodgment in the church, and posting on its doors the excommunicating Bulls issued from the papal chair of Rome against the "*deluded revolters of Lower Peru*," and twice were they repulsed, with the loss of hundreds, by this Spartan band of men, and boys, and women. Goyneche was compelled to fall back on Lima, with only 300 men. Surlily did he retreat, and brutally did he retaliate upon the harmless villagers of the country through which he passed (by *cutting off their noses and their ears** and by otherwise mis-using them), for the loss of his army at Santos. The people of this place are now so resolutely opposed to the king's government, that I believe they would all much rather lose their lives than again endure it. They have even got a patriotic method of cutting their hair; which is by leaving it thick and bushy in front, and clipping it as close round as possible in every other part. One of these *dwarf patriots*, an acute youth, only 16 years of age, in pointing out to me where the royalists experienced their greatest loss, observed, "Armed with an old musket I was here sir, and so was my father and my mother. My mother was twice wounded in the shoulder, yet still would not suffer herself to be conveyed from her husband, my father. We gloriously beat the *picarones* (the thieves) sir, and I shall esteem that day as the happiest of my life!"

I was singularly accosted in Santos by a dark-complexioned yet fashionably dressed female. Poor unfortunate woman! The greatest misery that she experienced—the only thing for which she sorrowed—the only object that prevented her

* Let the sceptical peruse the Manifesto of the Constituent Congress of La Plata, directed to All Nations. It is in the Author's possession, and free for the perusal of any one.

from enjoying unceasing felicity and never-ending bliss—was * * * * no great matter. It appeared that a short time previous, her husband had been created a Colonel of Militia, and all her care and anxiety was to provide him *with a three cornered cocked hat and feather!* In her efforts to obtain one she accosted me and other foreigners, and would, I verily believe, if she had had an opportunity, have addressed his Satanic majesty himself, if by so doing she could have gained this dearest wish of her heart. And now ye ladies of Boston or of Orleans, are ye not ashamed to be discontented with your enviable situation? This poor Peruvian would have given “kingdoms” for a cocked hat, whilst it is in your power to provide yourselves with as many of them as you please, and even with those who wear them.

Provisions and tropical fruits were abundant at Santos, but peaches, apples, pears, plums, gooseberries and currants do not thrive in this sultry climate. There was but one blacksmith here, and he a most wretched workman. Carpenters were in much request. A few Peruvians, of the latter profession, were *attempting* to erect a small flour-mill six miles out of Santos, on a fine stream of water. Their wages were 3½ dollars a day.

Abreast of our anchorage in the bay of Santos, and but a short distance from the beach, were the ruins of a town which appeared to have been much larger than Santos. The houses here, as well as the churches, were completely razed to their foundations; but by whom, or upon what occasion, those of whom I enquired, would not or could not tell. Hundreds of human skeletons, some with their clothes partially rotted, and skulls with the hair yet visible—those of the young and the old mixed indiscriminately, were lying in heaps above ground in the vicinity of these ruins.

After making a tarry of 11 days in Santos Bay, we again put to sea, and cruising for a fortnight without seeing whales, we stood in-shore, and brought-up in *Tomboz Roads*.

The anchorage is about two miles from the shore. The weather being very sultry here, within 4 degrees of the Equinox, our crew frequently bathed; nor did thousands of sharks, which were skimming the surface of the water (called by seamen “the shovel-head”), either frighten or annoy them. The town of *Womboz* is situated on the north bank of a winding stream, and 8 miles from the sea. This river

is filled with alligators. We saw a number of them in rowing up to the town. They always avoided the boat when in the water, but were principally seen reposing in the shade on the sandy banks. Some of them we judged to be 14 feet in length, and were told that they had sometimes surprised the Indians whilst bathing, and devoured them; in despite of this, many of our crew were imprudent enough to plunge in the river.

Nothing could exceed the beauty of the prospect whilst sailing up this stream. The water of a glassy smoothness, and thousands of variegated buzzing insects flitting over it—the banks covered with prairie grass, lofty trees, flowering shrubs and bushes, and these again lined with varied plumaged birds, chaunting their mellifluous lays, and with swarms of humming-birds, ravishing sweets from every flower. Ever and anon a vista in the forest presented to the eye the neat white-washed cottage of the planter, surrounded with fields of maize and rice and cane brake, with groves of the lofty cocoa-nut tree and widely-swelling orange; his garden teeming with the luscious melon, nutritious banana, strengthening lime and fattening cocoa.

Tomboz is handsomely situated—rising with a gentle ascent from the water's edge to the top of a hill. It consists of about 500 houses, which are principally built of clay. They are indifferently furnished, and are thatched with bull-rushes. The streets are spacious, but are not paved. There are many wealthy inhabitants in this place, and the ornaments of gold that the females here possessed, exceeded any thing of the kind that I had seen in Peru or Chili. Their bracelets, finger and ear-rings, combs, broaches, and necklaces, though of inelegant patterns, were very weighty and valuable. Some of the latter, of the same archetype, which I saw on the necks of several ladies, would not have cost less than 30 dollars in the U. States. These females were very partial to gay attire, and I was seriously told by some of them, that they should not feel happy were they not mistress of a dozen gowns. Scarlet silk or satin petticoats, and over these gowns of gauze, appeared to be fashionable. It was on a *santos dia* (saint's day) that we visited Tomboz, and on these occasions the ladies have an opportunity of displaying all their charms, and all their clothing. I noticed that the daughters of the house at which we stayed, changed their dress more than three times on this day, and

that every article of their attire was of a different colour; The artificial roses in their hair were perhaps red or white; the handkerchief that partly covered the bosom, yellow; the gown, a scarlet; stockings, black; shoes, blue; gloves, green; ribbands, lilack. They do not wear bonnets. The complexion of the ladies is swarthy, they are generally short, inclining to corpulency, and numbers of them are marked with the small-pox. The men dress in white and colored nankeens and cottons, and wear large straw hats.

The town of Tomboz was very bare of male inhabitants; I presume they were hardly in the proportion of 1 to 5 females. They have been destroyed in the wars—this town having been more than once the scene of contention with General Serna, which is but another name for assassination.

Whilst I was at the town of Tomboz, the inhabitants were celebrating one of their religious feasts. Although the religion is Roman Catholic, yet their mode of worship is so engrafted with the old Peruvian superstitions, as to be scarcely perceptible. Music appeared to be the principal object in these exercises, and in the church, as well as at many private houses, nought else was to be heard but the harsh hautboy, the rolling drum, and thrilling fife; whilst the people were continually entering or leaving the church, or singing, dancing and feasting in front of their houses. There was but one church here; it was a long and lofty building of clay, having neither steeple or bell, white-washed within and without, thatched with bullrushes, and containing a profusion of ornaments of gold and silver.

The woods around Tomboz are thronged with parrots, and many of those shrubs and flowers which, in Europe, are reared in Botanic Gardens, or raised in flower-pots within the houses, and esteemed as great curiosities, here, in this sultry climate, spring up spontaneously. A prickly shrub I particularly noticed, which towered above the loftiest forest trees.

Intermittent fevers and the ague are very prevalent in Tomboz and its vicinity, owing perhaps to the rapid transition from the sultriness of the day to the damp coolness of the evening; as, after the sun has sunk beneath the horizon, numerous exhalations arise from the marshes and low grounds about the town, and completely envelope it in a dense mantle, until the returning sun causes it to evaporate.

From the main river of Tomboz, a small

branch strikes off through the forest to the northward, and empties itself into the sea nine miles below the town. In this stream a most singular appearance is presented by the oysters which line its banks. The reader has heard of the seven wonders of the world—of that extraordinary tree at Nunnington, in England, so large that a coach and horses can be driven *with ease* through its hollow trunk!—of that wide-spreading oak at French Nismes, said to cover *an acre of ground*!—as also of the far-famed Indian *Upas*! so baneful in its effects, that instant death would attend the temerity of that traveller who should approach within *5 miles of it*! and whose vicinage is covered with the dead bodies of the animals, reptiles, birds, and insects, that have ventured within the sphere of *its contagious influence*! But has he ever heard of the OYSTER-TREE?—A TREE ON WHICH OYSTERS WERE THE FRUIT? Nay, startle not, gentle Reader. This branch of the main river that I have been speaking of, is so lined with trees and underwood, as almost to exclude the rays of the sun. The branches of these trees, like the weeping willow, grow downwards; and at high water (the tide here rising and falling 6 and 7 feet every 12 hours, and overflowing the low-lands) these branches become partly immersed. Thousands of oysters attach themselves to them, and at low tide they are seen suspended several feet above water, and present a curious spectacle. We *plucked* two boat-loads of this species of marine *fruit*, which, though small, nearly equalled those of the Chesapeake.

Females might become sailors on the coast of Peru—a pleasant southerly breeze is ever blowing. Rain is an uncommon occurrence here. The skies of Peru are generally cloudy, and this takes much from the intenseness of the heat. Sperm. whales are numerous on the coast, and these seas swarm with fin-back, hump-back, and grampus whales, with black-fishes, the sun-fish, sword-fish, bonetos, albacores, flying-fish, and many species of the shark. The salt-water birds are the same as those of Chili, with the exception of the pelican, man-of-war-hawk, and the tropic bird.

Leaving Tomboz, where we had lain 10 days, we bore away west from the land until we reached the 110th degree of west longitude, still being in latitude 5° South. It was here that we reached the *off-shore whaling ground*, distant upwards of 2000 miles from the coast of Peru; and we saw.

whilst we cruised here, more than 100 American whaleships. We found sperm. whales plentiful enough, but they were very shy, and ill luck still followed us. This ground was first discovered I believe by the English, but the whales finding themselves often disturbed, have sought other and more peaceful retreats, and are not so numerous as formerly. We cruised as far to the northward as 1° of latitude. The heat here was excessive; the decks became so hot, that the ship's crew could no longer go barefooted. After ranging these seas for 3 months between lat. 5° S. and 2° N. of the Equinox, we took our departure for the coast of Chili.

We were two months in performing our passage up the coast, and the first land that we saw for 6 months, was the island of MASSA FUERA, 426 miles W. of Valparaiso. Massa Fuera is exceedingly lofty, and a heavy swell and surf continually sets and beats upon the shore. This island was once a place of great resort for seal, and the ruins of the sealers' houses are still visible in the coves. Thousands of goats gambol on the mountains, and fatten upon the delicious herbage; and these, with myriads of sea-gulls and other birds, are the sole proprietors of this stupendous rock. The hills are clothed with wood, and to us, who for so many months had seen nothing but sky and water, their cheerful verdure was peculiarly enchanting. The shore abounded with fish; we caught and salted 3 or 400 of them.

Three weeks after leaving Massa Fuera, we made ISLA DE LA MOCHA (the island of Mocha), distant 9 miles from the main land of Chili. This island is 60 miles in circumference. Its hills are covered with wood, and the valleys with sweet herbage; the latter affording sustenance to numerous droves of wild hogs and horses*. Mocha is uninhabited, except occasionally by a few sealers. The soil is the richest that can be conceived; it is a fine black mould, and with slight pressure one can thrust a stick 3 and 4 feet below the surface. Widgeon, teal and shags are plentiful on the shores, as are pigeons in the plains. There is, at the

* We shot two of these horses. and fared sumptuously for a week upon *sea-pies* and *horse steaks*. Their flesh, when stewed, was as white and tender as that of a chicken. During our whale cruise, the crew often partook of stewed whale, or fried whale steaks (sperm. oil serving in lieu of butter to fry them); of Right Whale lip (which has a taste similar to cheese); of stewed black-fish and porpoise, sun fish chowder, goat-pie, and even of *fried shark*. These are RARITIES to which landmen are unaccustomed.

western extremity of the island, a long reef, and here the hardy sealers had affixed their weather-beaten residence.

After standing off-and-on Mocha for 2 days, we steered for the port of Talcahuano, something more than two degrees to leeward. Here we laid at anchor 19 days, and obtaining a recruit of wood, water, fruit and vegetables, again went to sea; and 11 days after, put into the South Bay of the island of St. Mary's, in search of Right Whales. The soil of St. Mary's, like that of Mocha, is a black alluvial. At the west end of this island, sixty men, belonging to some Connecticut sealing vessels anchored here, had erected a few small but comfortable huts for their residence. We once landed at this place, called the *seal camp*, and were conducted by the sealers up a steep and narrow path to the top of a mountain, some hundred feet above the level of the sea. Here looking down the cliff, we had a full view of the seal lying in heaps of thousands on the beach, with their young pups running over their backs, and turkey buzzards hopping about on these; the whole making such a horrid din (resembling the bellowing of bulls) that we could scarcely hear ourselves speak. The sealers, when they make an attack upon them, endeavour to get between the water and the seal, which are huddled in heaps on the beach, and which, at the sight of a man, make for the sea with all speed. A slight blow on the nose arrests their career, and lays them dead at your feet. In warm weather the seal as soon as dead, must be skinned and salted; otherwise the hair will leave the skin. These seal were of the species called *Ursine*. The males are denominated lions, from the resemblance of their head and mane to that animal. These lions are large and weighty; frequently measuring 10 feet in length, 5 and 6 in girth, and weighing from 800 to 1000 lbs. The seals here were all of the hair kind, and it was calculated there were upwards of 60,000 on the beach when I saw them. These sealers had recently arrived here from New South Shetland; and were busily employed, at their huts, in cooking seal flippers for their dinner. Many of them were smoking tobacco in pipes of their own manufacture, the bowl of which consisted of the hollow tooth of a sea-elephant, whilst a penguin's quill inserted, served all the purposes of a stem.

Leaving St. Mary's, where we obtained but 100 barrels of

Whale oil, we cruised, without success, for 3 weeks, when we once more entered the *Bay of Tongoy*. Here we staid but two days, and after having left it 36 hours, came to anchor in the *Port of Coquimbo*, in search of Right Whales. In certain months of the year, during the period of gestation, right whales enter the bays of Chili with their young, in pursuit of the small fish with which the shores abound. During the two months that we laid here, we took aboard 300 barrels of oil. After we had taken the blubber from whales in this Port, the Governor compelled us to tow the carcasses round into a small harbour south of the bay, that they might not drift ashore at the Port, and with their stench annoy the inhabitants. This cemetery of right whales was constantly attended by voracious turkey buzzards, ganets, gulls and albatrosses, making an astounding clamour among the noisome carcasses.

On the 9th of September, 1822, we went to sea from Coquimbo, bound once more to the lee-coast of Peru. In lat. 6 58 S. we discovered the island of SEA SEAL (*Lobos de Mer*). We sent men ashore on this sterile rock to get seal, of which there were several on the bench, but they succeeded in knocking down but two of them. Thousands of ganets, gulls, penguins, and pelicans, make these craggy precipices their nightly residence, and the place in which they rear their young. The boats, in returning, brought aboard two buckets full of ganets eggs.

After cruising on the coast of Peru for some time with but ill success, we joined company with the Ship *States*, of Nantucket, and together steered for America. We lost sight of her in a fog off Cape Horn, where we experienced one of the most terrific thunder gusts that can be imagined; whilst the lightning shot about our decks—appalling all, and rendering the most giddy, serious. After doubling the Cape, near which we took three right whales, and catching a transitory glance of the Brazils, off Pernambuco, nothing particular occurred till we reached the Gulf Stream. Here, in the month of May of the present year, we encountered a gale of wind so powerful, as to cause our commander (a veteran mariner) to declare, that he had seen nothing like it before in all his voyages. Off Block Island, we took a pilot.

When the Improvement left Nantucket on her cruise, sperm oil was selling at *One Dollar a Gallon*. Throughout the voyage, we had calculated upon receiving this sum at our return. Then think of our amazement and dismay—figure to yourself our disappointed looks, involuntary sighs, and reiterated “what do you think of that, shipmates,” when the Pilot announced the appalling intelligence, “*That oil had fallen to FORTY cents a Gallon!*” Ye who roll in the lap of affluence and feed upon richest luxuries, who repose on softest down and are strangers to disappointment—you cannot realise the wreck of hopes and crush of cargoes in the fall of oil. Every man, in his journeyings homeward, had formed his little plans and pleasures, his airy palaces, his future determinations. In a moment—in a twinkling, the sound of “*40 Cents*” dispels the pleasing illusion—displodes the evanescent vision. The writer of these pages, when from his chest he was wont to draw his empty pocket-book from among whale’s teeth, skin of shark, porpoise jaws, and old clothes, would fondly anticipate the moment that, in *Phoenix Bills*, he should blithely receive 150 dollars for labour done—how futile! His 18 months pay scarcely amounted to 60 DOLLARS!

In due time the ship arrived at Edgartown, and lastly at Nantucket, after an absence of nearly three years.

OF WHALING.

It would require a volume to describe the various minutiae attending the business of whaling; it will be impossible then, in the few pages here appropriated to this subject, to do it justice. The following remarks are with deference submitted.

Of WHALES, there are five species, viz: the *Spermaceti*, the *Hump Back*, *Fin Back*, *Right Whale* and *Grampus*. They are distinguished from each other, at a great distance, by the size and *regularity* of their spouts, and by the time the fish remain above water.

The *Spermaceti Whale* makes a low, white, wide-spreading spout, and will frequently continue blowing for upwards of half-an hour. It is a very ill-shaped fish, and has a square head, which is so hard, that a harpoon darted with full force against it, will not enter. It has a long hump on the top of the back, and glides through the water with incredible speed for such an unwieldy fish.

The *Hump Back* whale makes a somewhat higher spout than a sperm whale, and disappears in a few minutes. Its head is sharp, and it has a small hump upon the back.

The *Fin Back* whale, so called from having a sharp fin upon the back, makes a very high spout, and seldom blows more than five or six times. It has a sharp head, like the hump back.

The *Right Whale* has neither hump or fin upon the back, although its head resembles the two last-mentioned whales. It makes a *forked* spout.

Grampusses are seldom taken by whale ships.

There is no port in the United States from which so many Sperm whale ships issue, as from the town of Nantucket; I believe that their number amounts to nearly 400. These ships are of different sizes, and carry from 900 to 3,000 barrels of oil. The smaller of these vessels man but 2 boats, the others 3 and even 5. When a Sperm whaler leaves Nantucket for the Pacific Ocean, she is fitted out for three years. The provisions of these vessels are excellent; the biscuit, beef, pork and molasses which they take to sea, are not surpassed by that of any craft that leave the United States. Sperm whalers also sail from the ports of Boston, New-Bedford, New-London, New-York, &c.

A ship that carries 1700 barrels of oil, will probably have a crew of 25 men: viz. the commander, 2 mates, 3 boat-steerers, a cooper, a cook, a steward, and 16 hands before the mast. She will have 4 boats, but man but 3. The spare one is lashed athwart the stern of the vessel, and generally on the spare spars that a whaler carries; which pro-

ject out from under the tafforel rail, or are lashed in the larboard waist. Knees, boat-boards, nails, and other materials for the repairing, or even making of a boat, are carried in these vessels, and frequently a blacksmith and forge. The Nantucket officers are generally such ingenious men, that carpenters are not required. A cooper is always necessary.

Immediately abaft the windlass, are two iron pots, with furnaces beneath them, for trying out the oil; and below these, there is a vacant space, which, whilst trying-out, is kept filled with water, to prevent the decks from taking fire. From the head of the main-mast are suspended two enormous blocks, and a strong fall rove through these and corresponding blocks on deck, complete the tackle for heaving in the fish. It is surprising with what facility the blubber of a large whale is taken in-board.

As soon as a whale-ship gets well clear of the land of the United States, two men are kept aloft, from sun-rise till sun-set, at the fore and main-top-gallant heads, to look out for whales. As soon as they discern one, they halloo, with all their might, "THERE SHE BLOWS!" A most joyful sound to all hands. The captain now goes aloft, and if the whales are to windward, he orders the ship to be beat up to them, or if to leeward, to be kept off. After running as near to them with the vessel as prudent, the boats are lowered down. The larboard-boat is headed by the chief mate; the waist do. by the 2nd mate; and the starboard do. by the 3d mate, if the captain does not go himself. The whale boat is sharp at each end, and in lieu of a rudder, is steered by a long oar. In the centre of the boat, *well* coiled in a tub, and 300 fathoms in length, is the line. As soon as the boat gets clear of the ship, one end of the line is passed forward to the harpooner, who bends it on to a harpoon, whilst a short warp, attached to a second harpoon, is bent on to the line. The harpoons are then placed side by side, and rest on a crutch, about a foot above the gunnel of the boat. The stem of the harpoon is of iron, whilst the head of it, which is barbed like an arrow, is of steel, and its edge as sharp as a razor. The handle of the harpoon, say 5 feet long, is generally of hickory. The boat is rowed by 5 men, and the man at the forward oar is the harpooner, and who strikes the whale. These boats are furnished with six harpoons, 3 lances, and a sharp spade, a mast and sail, a boat-bucket, a small axe or knife, a keg containing a lantern, tinder-box, &c. and with waif-poles. Great skill is required in the officer who steers the boat, to go up alongside the fish in a proper manner. Scarcely any two whales will act precisely alike, and the judgment of the steersman is not more required in killing the whale, than in manœuvring the boat previous to striking. As soon as the boat ranges up abreast of the fish, the officer calls out, **STAND UP HARPOONER**; * * * * the other rowers continue pulling. When the harpooner supposes the moment has arrived, he gets a purchase with his foot, and darts the harpoon with all his might under the whale's hump, if possible, as there the irons will hold best, and the second harpoon follows the first as quick as may be. Now the men *stern-all* with all their might, to get the boat clear of the whale. The fish will perhaps lie for a minute perfectly still, and will then glide through the water with astonishing rapidity, going all the time to windward, and rising to the surface of the water each minute to blow. There is in the stem of the boat a wooden block, which is called the *loggerhead*; and

as soon as the whale takes to *running*, two turns of the line are taken around this loggerhead, and the boat then travels with the same velocity as the whale. The oars are all a-peak; one man is wetting the line, whilst the others are trimming-boat. After the fish has ran a short time, the officer (who has now gone to the head of the boat, whilst the harpooner has come aft to steer it, and to attend to the line) orders the men to face round, and haul-line. The boat is now hauled up to the whale, and the mate takes his sharp spade, and darts it through her *flukes* (tail), which will inevitably *bring-her-too*, or stop her running: When she slackens her pace, the officer gets up his lance, attached to which is a long warp, and which he bends on to the line. The man at the bow-oar faces round, and hauls the boat up to the whale, the steersman laying the head off or on, according as the officer motions with his hand. He now handles his lance, and pointing it immediately over or under her *shoulder-blade* (it is here where her life lies), darts it with all his force, whilst the rowers stern-all to clear the boat of the fish. Again he is rowed or hauled up to the whale, and again he darts his lance, whilst the boat sterns-all. The whale now being sorely wounded, the officer will perhaps deem the time arrived for *setting* upon her. The boat is then hauled up to the side of the fish, say within two yards, and the officer thrusts his lance into her, and works it backwards and forwards, for a short time, without drawing it out. The whale perhaps begins to spout thick blood, and they slacken line, and stern-all to get clear of her. A few minutes previous to her death, she goes into what is called her *flurry*; she will now glide round and round unconscious of her doings, lash the ocean with her flukes, distend her ponderous jaws, fight with her head, spout up both lights and coagulated blood, until, quite exhausted, she turns upon her side—*dead*, her head always toward the sun.

A hole is then cut through her flukes, and a short warp inserted, which is made fast to the boat, and she is towed to the ship. As soon as alongside, the officers and men put on their oil clothes, and commence *cutting-in*. The head is first severed from the body by means of sharp spades. A hole is then cut in the blubber of the neck, and a large iron hook inserted, which is attached to that tackle before spoken of. The end of the tackle falls are taken round the windlass, and the men commence heaving; whilst the officers, on stages over the ship's side, are separating, by means of their sharp spades, the blubber from the carcase. Whilst the blubber is hove to the main-top in a continued piece, say 4 ft. wide, the fish is *turning* in the water. As soon as the tackle that is conveying in-board the first piece of blubber, becomes 2-blocks, the piece is lowered down into the main hatchway; and as it descends, it is cut into smaller pieces, for more convenient stowage. When all the blubber is stripped from off the body of a whale, the carcase sinks. The head is now to be disposed of, and which is said to contain 1-third as much oil as the blubber of the body. If it is not too large, it is hoisted in whole on deck, and being split open, the fluid oil (called the *case-matter*) is baled out into tubs, whilst the fat substance in which it was enveloped, will, by a slight compression of the fingers, dissolve principally into fluid also. Having obtained all from the head that is worth saving, the remainder is cast overboard. Whilst cutting-in a whale, the light sails of the ship are furled, and the head-sails are hard a-back; but the in-

stant the blubber is in-board, the ship proceeds on her course, the fires are lit, the *trying* commences, and a man again goes aloft to look-out for whales.

The ship at this time presents a greasy appearance, and the hands, in their oil-clothes, look like any thing but sailors. The crew are now disposed of in the following manner. The cooper is overhauling the casks intended to contain the oil; one or two men are in the main-hatch-way (*blubber-room*), cutting, with sharp spades, the blubber into small pieces, which are then passed up on deck for the *mincer*; a boat-steerer and his assistant are engaged before the *try-works*, in lighting the fires; and at a bench (*horse*) close by the windlass, stands the mincer and his assistant. This *mincer* holds a large and sharp knife, with a handle at each end, and it is his business to slice each piece of blubber that is presented to him, which is then conveyed to the *try-pot*. When these pieces of sliced blubber are sufficiently *tryed-out*, they are skimmed from the oil, and are called *scraps*, and serve (in lieu of wood) for *fuel* to *try-out* the remainder of the whale. As fast as the oil is *tryed out*, it runs into a copper strainer-cooler, and after into an iron-pot, from whence it is conveyed into casks while it is yet warm, and a day or two subsequently, is gauged and stowed down in the hold.

Sperm whales are found of all sizes, and will make from 20 gallons to 120 barrels of oil. They feed upon a fish called *Squid*, and have particular grounds or haunts. By whalers, the male whale is called a *Bull*; the female, a *Cow*; and the young ones, *Calves*. The Bull sperm whale, is allowed to make much more oil than the Cow; but among *right* whales, the Cow is said to afford the greatest quantity. A sperm whale, when dead, will generally float like a cork, but the other species of whales, especially on soundings, will often sink. Sperm whales are seldom found on soundings, the others, frequently.

Although I have described the death of a whale that *ran*, after being struck, still they do not always do this. Sometimes the whale is killed outright, when the harpoons are first darted into her; at other times, without fighting or even struggling, she will lie and be lanced, and die; again, when struck, she will *sound*, or descend to great depths under water, at which time the line flies out of the boat with the rapidity of lightning, the friction, if the line is not wet, frequently setting on fire the *loggerhead*. Whales have been known to descend to such depths, that, although the lines of 3 boats, making 900 fathoms, were bent on to them, they have carried them all down. Sometimes a whale will fight to such a degree, that it is impossible to haul the boat up to get a lance at her; at other times, when struck, she will come with jaws extended for the boat, and in a minute crush it into pieces; and again, will unperceived, rise to the surface immediately under the boat's keel, and, with one dash of her flukes, send boat and men into the air; others will act with so much cunning, that when you have *fastened* to them with your irons, they will not permit you to come near enough to lance them, and after following their circuitous course for hours, you are at length compelled to cut the line, bid adieu to your harpoons and the whale, and return to the ship tired, wet, and disheartened. The chances of securing a whale even after she is struck, are many: the harpoons *may* break; they *may* draw; the line *may* part; the boat *may* get stove; the whale *may* not consent to be killed, &c. &c.

The lines used in whale-ships have generally 12 or 16 yarns in a strand, and each yarn, it is calculated, will support 100 lbs. weight.

Whales are either seen in shoals, or singly. A lone whale is generally a Bull, and very large. Some distance ahead or astern of a shoal, one or two whales will be seen spouting; and as these are known to be *big fellows*, the boats generally make after them. But if none of these *old soldiers*, as they are called, are observed, then the boat, if the whales are going slow, is carried up to the largest among them, who is known by the size of his hump. If three or more boats be in pursuit, and the whales net well, each boat will fasten, and probably kill its fish. Sometimes when a boat gets up to a shoal and strikes, the rest of the whales will go down, or make off with the greatest speed; at other times they will *bring-too* immediately about the boat, giving the officer, if he is skilful, an opportunity of committing goodly havock.—Eight whales have been killed in this way by one boat.

In the Pacific ocean, in clear weather and an unruffled sea, a whale's spout can be discerned 6 miles from the ship; and as those on the look-out, stand upon the top gallant cross-trees, they, from this eminence, by merely turning their body, have a surface of water of upwards of 30 miles in circumference, within their vision. Thus *airily* situated, whilst the ship is cleaving the briny, trackless, silent deep, the men spend their *exalted* watches in making [not the welkin hat] the rigging ring with songs of love and whales. In this happy mood, their ideas will often revert to friends, to sweethearts, and to wives till, wrapt in pleasing forgetfulness, they look down with sovereign contempt upon all *deck-like* things, when lo! the greasy try-pots meet their view—admonishing them they still are *blubber hunters*!

Whales are not always discovered by their blowing, they are frequently seen *breaching* at the distance of seven or eight miles from the vessel. A *Breach*, is when a whale throws its body completely out of water, making a prodigious splashing; and the size of the breach, determines the species of whale. The breach of a sperm whale is much larger than that of a hump back, or fin-back.

Hump back whales, when struck, generally take to running; and although there is not that danger to be apprehended from one of these, as from a sperm whale, it requires great skill to stop their progress, and to kill them. A boat is often paddled on to these whales, in preference to being rowed, they are so very shy.

Fin backs are seldom taken; for when harpooned, they glide through the water with such amazing swiftness, that it is but seldom a boat can be hauled up to them.

Right whales are said to be the most dangerous to kill, of any of the species. The writer of these pages has been at the killing of these in the Chilian Bays, and on the False Banks, off the coast of La Plata, and for his own part, as it respects the danger, would much rather be at the attacking of two right whales, than one sperm. Right whales, so soon as they spout blood, generally act as if they were unconscious of any thing, and afford every chance to the lancer to prick their life. Sperm whales seldom do this; they will often fight and plunge and run as much after they spout blood, as before. Whales frequently live two hours after they first commence spouting thin blood, and sometimes for half-an-hour after they have done blowing altogether, to appearance at least.

It requires a person of no ordinary nerve to range up alongside of a

whale after she has been *struck*;—to hear the deafening roar of her spouting, more stunning than the blast of ten steam engines—to see her lash the billows with her tail, covering both men and boat with the bloody spray—open her tremendous jaws, and writhe and twist and turn in excruciating misery. When whale boats are in chase, the officers will often strike a *calf*, to reach the heart of its *mother*. When a calf is struck, the cow will continue to follow it; yea, if pierced with fifty lance wounds and bleeding at every pore, she will accompany her little one, and spout by its side, till faint with loss of blood and agony insupportable, she surrenders up her life at the shrine of affection. A woman does not feel more acute anguish for her sick and frail infant—more affection for the tender and helpless offspring of her own body—than does this monster of the deep, *Cyclus* whale, for its own young!

The price of sperm oil, at present, is but 45 cents per gallon. When the expence of fitting a whale ship out for 3 years is considered; the many thousand miles of ocean she must traverse to complete her cargo; the length of time, in these voyages, in which the crews have nothing to look upon but sky and water; the dangers they are exposed to from the scurvy, and in their encounters with the whales—from heat and cold and wind and rain; then their tedious separation from their country, their homes and their friends; it is not too much to assert, that, were the price of oil *three times* what it is, it would scarcely compensate for the peril and anxiety in obtaining it.—*A whaleman truly earns his bread by the sweat of his brow!*

The following description of the most enterprising and hazardous part of the business of WHALING, was originally written by the Author for the *Nantucket Inquirer*. Although the language is somewhat technical, it may serve to shew with what intensesness of feeling the officers of a boat regard the whales while in pursuit. The language which is attributed to the person commanding a boat, will be found, with slight variation, to be literally that of the greater number of the whale officers in the Pacific Ocean.

The man at the mast-head upon the look-out, having discovered whales, vociferates with all his might. "THERE SHE BLOWS!" The captain immediately exclaims—"Where away?" and "How far off?" When being answered as to their being to windward, to leeward, right ahead, or astern, he goes aloft himself to determine that they are sperm whales, and which way bound. We will suppose that they are three points off the larboard bow, distant about 4 miles, and heading along the same course as the ship. Now the captain cries, "Keep her off two points;" which being done, "Steady—steady as she goes," is his next order. "The weather braces a small pull." "Loose top-gallant-sails, bear-a-hand." Scarcely a man is to be found on deck after these orders are executed, except the helmsman: all are eagerly jumping aloft to catch sight of the whales previous to their going down; and hope and fear are alternately expressed in the faces of each, as the fish are seen to glide through the water rapidly, and in a straight course, or occasionally to play upon the surface—to *lobtail* it, is the technical term. The ship *nearing* the whales, the next order is, "See the lines in the boats!" "Swing the cranes!" The after-oarsman now fills his boat

keg with water, puts some bread under the stern sheets, and sees that a bucket is in the boat. We will imagine that the whales are now *sounding*, and that the captain, having run down with the ship as near as he thinks advisable, has ordered the main-topsail to be backed. All hands are now straining their optics to discover the whales when they first blow. They are at length seen a short distance from the ship. "*Stand by the boats, there,*" cries the captain, and each man, knowing his station, is found at his respective boat, eager for the chase. "*Lower away*"—the boats are precipitated into the water, and the crews are at their oars in a twinkling. After pushing from the ship, it takes some 2 or 3 minutes for the harpooner to adjust his craft, he then seats him on his thwart, and takes his oar. Now the officer who *heads* the boat, speaks, "*Line your oars, boys, and pull ahead—(a lapse of two or three minutes)—pull ahead, I tell you, why don't ye—Oh, how they lay, heads and points, look at 'em—pull ahead, I tell ye—long and strong, head boat, I say—(an interval of about 60 seconds)—every man do his best—lay back, I tell ye. (fiercely)—why don't ye spring—don't let that boat pass ye (despondingly)—spring, I tell ye (authoritatively) there, there they be, round and round with 'em, for God's sake pull ahead (entreatingly)—(lapse of a few seconds)—every thing—every thing I've got in my chest I'll give ye, do spring boys, let's go on first. Now then, back to the thwarts, give her the touch: I feel ye (encouragingly)—five seas off, but five seas off, spring!—3-oar side best; pull all, pull every soul of you (boisterously)—I'll give you all my tobacco, every thing I've got—look at her, O, what a lump, and slow as night—don't you look round (passionately)—I tell you she don't blow, she only whiffs it out—at the end of your thwarts, pull, and we'll be on this rising—she's an 80-barrel whale: there she mills; by jingo she's heading to leeward: a large fellow separate from the school (shout)—why the *harry* don't you pull—now do boys, do your best, won't you (soothingly)—I tell you we are *jam on* to her! One minute more! Half a minute!—O, boys, if you want to see your sweethearts, if you want to see Nantucket (with emotion), pull ahead—spring, h—t ye, that whale will shorten our voyage six months—I tell you we gain her fast—now's the time—mills still—heading to leeward—slap on to her in a moment—harpooner stand by—all my tobacco—all my clothes—every thing that I possess—pull—O what a whale (softly)—I've have my soul out—harpooner—harpooner—harpooner * * * *—one minute more lay back; spring half a minute more; all my tobacco, a double share of grog—we are in her *wake*—(whispers) make no noise with your oars—STAND UP HARPOONER—pull the rest—GIVE IT HER SOLID!*

* * * * * Stern, stern I tell ye (loudly)—stern all, stern like the devil—stern, and get clear of the whale—harpooner come aft—wet the line there, you 2nd oarsman, we are fast—there she's up, there she spouts, now haul me on—stern, stern I tell ye—lay to leeward of the whale—that's a good one (straightens his lance)—lay the head of the boat off—I've bon'd my lance d—n her—give me a chance, won't ye; do haul me on, will ye—there's the FLAG, *She spouts Blood*—stern, I tell ye—lie—give us a set upon her—thick as tar, there she clotters—stern, she's going in her *flurry*—stern all—there, she's fin up; pass the spade forward, let's haul up to her, get harness on, and tow her along-side."

